The Washington Post

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SU V1 V2 V3 V4

Sunny, hazy 83/62 • Tomorrow: Sunny, hazy 88/66 **B6**

Democracy Dies in Darkness

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025 · **$4**

A dramatic display in Sicily

FABRIZIO VILLA/GETTY IMAGES

An eruption at Mount Etna sent smoke and ash high into the air Monday. Officials said there was no threat to people nearby, but the volcano was temporarily closed to tourists. Eruptions at Etna are common, and Monday's activity came after part of the southeast crater collapsed, Italy's National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology said.

Strikes lift spirits in Ukraine, stun Russia

Drone attacks showcase Kyiv's innovations — and Moscow's vulnerabilities

BY SIOBHÁN O'GRADY, FRANCESCA EBEL, SERHIY MORGUNOV AND ALEX HORTON

KYIV — For 18 months, Ukraine's internal security service planned an audacious assault on far-flung Russian airfields — first sneaking drones into Russia, then planting them near key military runways.

On Sunday, just ahead of a new round of peace talks, it was go time: Near four unsuspecting Russian military bases, remotely activated roofs lifted off mobile homes and sheds parked on flatbed trucks. Armed Ukrainian drones tucked inside soared upward, then pounced on military aircraft lined up on the runways, engulfing many in flames.

The brazen attack — which Ukrainian officials claimed destroyed at least 13 Russian aircraft and damaged dozens of others — shocked Russia and instantly reduced its capabilities to threaten a nuclear attack or launch missile strikes on Ukraine and other countries. It also served as a crucial reminder to Moscow and Ukraine's Western partners that Kyiv remains capable of exploiting Russia's weaknesses and disrupting its war plans, despite being outnumbered and outgunned.

Ukraine said the damaged or destroyed aircraft, some of which

SEE **UKRAINE** ON **A10**

Peace talks: Sides agree on a new prisoner exchange but little else. **A9**

GOP tries a quieter approach to ACA cuts

'Repeal and replace' gives way to efforts to push people off program

BY PAIGE WINFIELD CUNNINGHAM

Congressional Republicans are pursuing changes to the Affordable Care Act that would mean 10.7 million fewer Americans using its insurance marketplaces and Medicaid, a huge reduction that some view as a way to accomplish part of the health-care coverage cancellation that failed in 2017.

They're not branding it a repeal of President Barack Obama's signature health care law this time around, and this year's effort wouldn't erase its marketplaces or Medicaid expansion. Congress tried that the last time President Donald Trump was in office but abandoned it amid an outcry from the health care industry, advocates and voters.

But the GOP plan making its way through Congress would sharply increase the number of people without health insurance, largely by narrowing the path for poor Americans to gain coverage

SEE **HEALTH CARE** ON **A2**

Medicaid: Senator's joke shows party's messaging challenge. **A14**

Polish election builds on populist tide in Europe

Nationalist's narrow win reflects rising strength of MAGA-style movements

BY LEO SANDS

A conservative nationalist backed by President Donald Trump was elected to Poland's presidency over the weekend, capping a string of tightly fought contests that analysts say underscore the growing strength of far-right and populist parties in Europe — fueled in part by the influence of the MAGA movement from across the pond.

Karol Nawrocki, a historian supported by Poland's conservative Law and Justice party, narrowly defeated Warsaw's liberal mayor in Sunday's election, 50.89 percent to 49.11 percent. Last month, U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Kristi L. Noem had urged Poles to elect him — the latest in a spate of controversial interventions by Trump administration officials into European domestic politics.

Nawrocki's victory comes a year after many far-right parties surged in the European parliamentary elections. Since then, far-right parties have continued to fare largely well: coming first in Austria, staging historic advances in Portugal and Germany, and making waves but ultimately falling short of expectations in Romania and France.

Daniel Hegedüs, a regional director at the German Marshall Fund think tank, said the narrowness of the results showed how

SEE **EUROPE** ON **A11**

Gridlock: Election keeps Polish government at a standstill. **A11**

Some DOGE reforms the opposite of efficient

New requirements add red tape that delays even simple federal functions

BY HANNAH NATANSON

Somewhere in the world last month, a State Department employee began the routine process of hiring a vendor for an upcoming embassy event — but quickly ran into a problem.

The vendor was refusing to sign paperwork certifying that it did not promote diversity, equity and inclusion, or "DEI," a new requirement under President Donald Trump's executive order eradicating DEI from the government. The State employee — who spoke on the condition that neither he nor the location of his embassy be named, for fear of retaliation — sighed.

Then he got busy: The workaround, he knew, would take time. First, he got his ambassador's signed approval to hire the vendor anyway. Next, he filled out an Office 365 form justifying the expense in 250 words before selecting which "pillar" of necessary spending it fell under, choosing from options including "Safer, Stronger, More Prosperous." After submitting that to higher-ups and getting their sign-off, he filled out yet another form — this one destined for political appointees back in Washington.

A week later, the vendor was secured. Under any previous administration, it would have taken one day, the employee said.

SEE **DOGE** ON **A4**

National Park Service: Staffing plunges as peak season nears. **A3**

Suspect charged in Colo. attack

OFFICIALS: 'ZIONIST PEOPLE' TARGETED

Man faces hate crime, attempted murder counts

This article is by Carolyn Y. Johnson, Ben Brasch, Anumita Kaur, Roman Stubbs and Michelle Boorstein

BOULDER, COLORADO — The man accused of using a flamethrower to attack a Jewish event in Boulder, Colorado, told investigators he planned the assault for a year and wanted to "kill all Zionist people and wished they were all dead," according to court documents released on Monday.

Twelve people were injured in Sunday's attack, which sent another ripple of unease throughout the American Jewish community.

Mohamed Sabry Soliman, 45, who has been charged with a federal hate crime and state charges of attempted murder, appeared in court on Monday afternoon in an orange jumpsuit and with a bandage around his head. Authorities said Soliman had more than a dozen unused molotov cocktails and are investigating the incident as an act of terrorism.

The horror of the attack — many of the victims, including a Holocaust survivor, were senior citizens — was magnified by repeated violent incidents targeting American Jews since 2023, when Hamas invaded Israel, setting off Israel's current war in Gaza.

A young couple were gunned down last month as they exited a Jewish museum in D.C. and the residence of Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro, who is Jewish, was set on fire in April by a man blaming him for Middle East violence against Palestinians.

Although incidents of antisemitism have been rising in the United States since 2016, groups that monitor hate crimes say the numbers have exploded since Oct. 7, 2023.

The high-profile nature of attacks over the past few weeks and the intense political debate about

SEE **BOULDER** ON **A18**

D.C. area: Police promise to step up patrols at synagogues. **B1**

HARRY NALTCHAYAN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Jack Nichols, Frank E. Kameny and Lilli Vincenz protest government discrimination against gay people with others outside the White House in 1965. Kameny was a scientist who became an activist.

RETROPOLIS

Where stepping stones became a cornerstone

History of gay rights isn't complete without D.C.'s steady contributions to the movement

BY PETULA DVORAK

While Stonewall and San Francisco are iconic in the LGBTQ rights movement, it is official Washington that birthed some of the pivotal moments in that national fight for civil rights.

Washington became a haven for queer Americans, but it also was where prejudice was enshrined into law. That tension created seismic social changes that continue to reverberate.

The anguish of gay Americans who were called "sexual psychopaths" in Congress and fired from their jobs fueled the first public demonstrations for gay rights in the nation. The fight for dignity continued through the AIDS epidemic and the battle for marriage equality.

But the spirit of that struggle also created a vibrant society. D.C. also claims America's oldest queer nightclub, an influential lesbian collective and a gay Black club that drew celebrities gay and straight.

D.C. built monuments to the thinkers, warriors and leaders who shook and

SEE **PRIDE** ON **A6**

IN THE NEWS

A question of independence Trump's push for "gold-standard science" alarms experts who fear meddling by political appointees. **A8**

So long, 'Dave Thomas Circle' D.C. officials unveiled a new plaza in Northeast with more efficient traffic lanes to replace an intersection that had a Wendy's in the middle. **B1**

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A string of homicides in D.C. last month brought the city's total for the year nearly equal to the same period in 2024. B1

A property management firm has agreed to pay D.C. over $1 million as part of a settlement in a lawsuit alleging a rent inflation conspiracy. B1

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Cole Henry battled through the mental strain of a spate of injuries to become a Nationals reliever. D1

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Tech companies say their products will address problems in women's health care, but will they create others? E1

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Republicans push cuts to Medicaid eligibility

HEALTH CARE FROM **A1**

and making it easier for them to be booted off it. It would target the twin pillars of Medicaid expansion and federally subsidized insurance marketplaces, with new rules Republicans say will reduce waste, fraud and abuse.

That's a notable departure from the Obamacare repeal-and-replace Republicans pursued for years, but an approach that still undermines the law's broad goal of getting most Americans covered.

"It is very much like a backdoor repeal and replace," said Matt Salo, former executive director of the National Association of Medicaid Directors and now a healthcare consultant. "They've been too cute by half by doing it but not calling it that."

Animosity toward the Affordable Care Act, which still exists among some Republicans, isn't what gave rise to this latest slate of proposed cuts. Rather, it was the need to help pay for extending Trump's tax breaks in the budget reconciliation bill the president has urged them to pass this summer.

House Republicans managed to find more than $800 billion over 10 years in savings from Medicaid and the marketplaces in a bill they passed last month, which is now under consideration in the Senate. The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that should their bill become law, 7.6 million fewer people would be enrolled in Medicaid and 3.1 million fewer would be enrolled in the marketplaces than would be on the rolls a decade from now.

"They're not calling this ACA repeal and replace, but the coverage losses would be among many of the same people who would have lost their insurance under ACA repeal," said Larry Levitt, executive vice president for health policy at KFF.

States would face new mandates and restrictions under the GOP bill. They would need to verify Medicaid expansion eligibility every six months instead of once a year. They could no longer sign up the lowest-income marketplace enrollees throughout the year. They would have to collect more paperwork from certain marketplace applicants. The open enrollment period would be shortened by a month.

The bill would also delay two Biden-era regulations aimed at easing and streamlining enrollment by helping people more easily transition between Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program and private marketplace plans.

Taken together, those changes would amount to the biggest slash in enrollment since repeal failed eight years ago, except for when states resumed eligibility checks after a pause during the coronavirus pandemic.

States would face a steeper burden in administering their Medicaid programs and marketplaces, resulting in eligible people losing coverage, said Edwin Park, a research professor at the Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy's Center for Children and Families.

"You can imagine the state is completely overwhelmed because you have to create and administer a complex system," Park said.

TOM BRENNER/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Sen. Josh Hawley (R-Missouri) has been among the GOP senators who have opposed cuts to Medicaid.

> *"They're not calling this ACA repeal and replace, but the coverage losses would be among many of the same people who would have lost their insurance under ACA repeal."*
>
> **Larry Leavitt,** executive vice president for health policy at KFF, a nonpartisan organization that does health policy research

Supporters of the legislation insist the purpose of the GOP bill is to shore it up for the most vulnerable Americans — the pregnant women, poor children and disabled people it was originally intended to cover.

"If you read the actual language we're working with, it is designed for one major purpose: to allow the president of the United States and the governors who run the states to align on what we should be doing for the most vulnerable members of the population," Mehmet Oz, who runs the agency that oversees Medicare and Medicaid, said on Politico's "The Conversation" podcast, which posted Sunday.

Medicaid has become too big, costly and wasteful, said Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-Kentucky), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which wrote the Medicaid part of the GOP bill.

"Undoubtedly, Democrats will use this as an opportunity to engage in fear-mongering and misrepresent our bill as an attack on Medicaid," he wrote in a Wall Street Journal op-ed. "In reality, it preserves and strengthens Medicaid for children, mothers, people with disabilities and the elderly — for whom the program was designed."

Republicans swung harder at the Affordable Care Act back in 2017, proposing legislation that was estimated to reduce insurance enrollment by three times as much.

But since that time, enrollment in Medicaid, CHIP and the marketplaces has grown from 86 million Americans to about 100 million, making them even more politically difficult to target. Conservative health policy thinkers — most prominently Brian Blase, whose Medicaid ideas heavily influenced the legislation — say that's precisely why Medicaid needs to be pared back.

Blase, president of Paragon Health Institute, points to the financial realities of transforming Medicaid from a safety net that chiefly covered the most vulnerable into a broader program that in most states now covers people who earn up to $44,000 for a family of four. Medicaid now costs the federal and state governments nearly $900 billion per year, up from about $590 billion in 2017.

On top of that, Blase notes, the federal government has assumed a larger share of Medicaid spending in recent years. That's partly because it covers a much larger share of the costs for Medicaid expansion enrollees compared with people eligible for the program under the old rules.

Additionally, states have been using a loophole that allows them to collect more federal Medicaid dollars. They collect a tax from hospitals and other Medicaid providers which they then pass back in the form of higher state payments, drawing down more federal matching funds.

That maneuver — which Blase and other conservatives term "money laundering" — is addressed in the GOP bill, which caps state provider taxes and bans states from establishing new ones.

"There has been a massive cost shift from the states to the federal government," Blase said. "I think reform needs to put more responsibility back in the states. I think we have a better Medicaid program when states are spending their own money."

Some Senate Republicans — as they did in 2017 — are balking at the cuts. Chief among them is Sen. Josh Hawley (R-Missouri), who has called them "morally wrong and politically suicidal." More than 1 million Missouri residents are on Medicaid. The state expanded the program in 2021.

Republicans who do support the cuts insist they're just going after waste in Medicaid and the marketplaces by kicking ineligible people off the rolls.

"They're looking at fraud, waste and abuse. And nobody minds that," Trump said on "Meet the Press" on May 4.

There are no reliable estimates of fraud in Medicaid but reports by the Department of Health and Human Services' inspector general and the Justice Department have indicated that providers like nursing homes, pain clinics and ambulance services — not recipients — are largely the culprits.

Investigators who detect and root out that fraud — Medicaid fraud control units, the HHS inspector general and the DOJ — wouldn't get any new funding under the GOP bill. It does require states to take more steps to ensure no dead people are on the rolls and conduct extra screening of medical providers. But those modest provisions, frequently touted by Republicans, aren't estimated to produce any savings.

Democrats and many health policy experts charge that there's so little fraud in Medicaid and the marketplaces that the coverage losses will mainly be among people who are eligible but fail to jump through all the new hoops created by the GOP legislation.

"They're branding it as eliminating waste, fraud and abuse, which is ridiculous," said Leslie Dach, who worked on health care in the Obama administration and now heads the Democratic-aligned group Protect Our Care.

Dach and other Democrats are particularly upset about the bill's new work requirements, which produce about one-third of the savings, the biggest chunk. Working-age adults in Medicaid expansion would have to prove to state Medicaid programs at least twice per year that they're either working or volunteering at least 80 hours a month.

Health policy analysts say that would have little effect on labor force participation, because most Medicaid enrollees already work. Eight percent of healthy working-age adults who used Medicaid in 2023 were unemployed and weren't caregiving or attending school, according to KFF, a nonpartisan organization that does health policy research.

Yet work requirements are popular, supported by more than half of Americans and eight in 10 Republicans in a recent KFF poll. That could bode well for Republicans in their effort to sell their bill to the public.

Republicans are also avoiding the deepest pitfall from their 2017 repeal effort: They're not going after the law's popular protections for people with preexisting conditions. The GOP repeal bills had proposed weakening those protections, giving Democrats one of the top lines of attack that helped them win back the House majority the following year.

But to supporters of the Affordable Care Act, the GOP bill is the latest chapter in a story they've watched for years.

"It's death by a thousand cuts," said Jessica Schubel, who served as a White House adviser on health care during President Joe Biden's administration.

CORRECTIONS

- A May 30 Page One article about a Supreme Court ruling on environmental reviews did not specify that a quotation from Amy Andryszak, president and CEO of the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America, was itself a quotation from the majority opinion.

- A review of Washington National Opera's "Porgy and Bess" in the May 29 Style section incorrectly referred to soprano Brittany Renee and bass-baritone Michael Sumuel as Cafritz Young Artists.

- A photo caption with the May 29 obituary for Mara Corday misidentified the actress and the film in the photo, based on information provided by Getty Images. Ms. Corday was not pictured in the photo. Additionally, Ms. Corday's first name was misspelled as Maya.

- A May 7 A-section article about a ruling on President Donald Trump's ban of transgender troops incorrectly described which members of the military who have been diagnosed with gender dysphoria are eligible to obtain a waiver. The waiver is open only to a person who "demonstrates that he or she has never attempted to transition to any sex other than their sex."

- In some April 28 editions, an A-section article about Trump administration officials' comments about the removal of U.S. citizen children misattributed quotations about the legal definition of deportation. The comments were made by Charles Kuck, an immigration attorney and law professor at Emory University.

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DIGEST

CONNECTICUT

2 rescued after pilot lands plane in sea

The pilot of a small plane that was about to crash managed to land it safely in the cool, choppy waters of Long Island Sound off Connecticut and called 911 to provide his precise coordinates before the aircraft sank, authorities said Monday.

The Coast Guard pulled two people wearing life jackets from the water shortly before 11 a.m. Sunday, about a half-hour after the plane went down a few miles off the coast of Branford, Connecticut, officials said. The survivors were treated for minor injuries and hypothermia symptoms and were brought to a hospital, the Branford Fire Department said.

"We arrived shortly after the Coast Guard," Branford Fire Chief Thomas Mahoney said. "The Coast Guard did a great job in responding to the area, retrieving the people out of the water before things got worse. And the pilot obviously did a really good job of landing the plane in choppy seas. Those outcomes don't always come out as well as this did."

The water temperature at the time was about 60 degrees, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Mahoney said the seas were a choppy 3 to 6 feet.

The single-engine Piper PA-32-300 Cherokee Six took off from Sikorsky Memorial Airport in Stratford, Connecticut, shortly before 10:14 a.m. and had been in the air for about 12 minutes when it went down, according to the flight-tracking company FlightAware.

About 10 minutes into the flight, the pilot declared an emergency and contacted air traffic controllers in New York, who directed the pilot to try to land about eight miles away at Tweed-New Haven Airport, according to Andrew King, a spokesperson for Avports, which manages Tweed-New Haven.

Tweed-New Haven officials prepared a runway for a possible emergency landing. But air traffic controllers lost contact with the plane, King said.

Mahoney said after the plane went into the water, the pilot used a cellphone to call 911 and report that his plane had crashed into Long Island Sound and was taking on water. The aircraft was submerged when rescuers arrived.

— Associated Press

TENNESSEE

7 hurt in multivehicle crash in Gatlinburg

Seven people, including two pedestrians, were injured in a multivehicle crash in the Tennessee tourist town of Gatlinburg on Sunday.

The accident occurred about 4:20 p.m., when a minivan traveling through the middle of the pedestrian-heavy downtown area accelerated unexpectedly, striking a person in a crosswalk before colliding with several other vehicles, according to the Tennessee Highway Patrol. One of the struck vehicles hit a roadside sign that fell and injured a second pedestrian. Five other people inside two different vehicles were injured as well.

The Tennessee Highway Patrol is investigating, and early indications suggest the crash might have been caused by a medical emergency, according to the agency.

Gatlinburg is in the mountains of eastern Tennessee. It sits between Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the country's most visited national park, and Pigeon Forge, home of Dollywood, singer Dolly Parton's amusement park.

— Associated Press

OREGON

12 injured in stabbing at homeless shelter

A man was arrested on suspicion of stabbing multiple people Sunday night at a homeless shelter in Salem, Oregon, injuring 12 people and sending 11 to the hospital.

Five men were still in the hospital Monday with serious but non-life-threatening injuries after the attack at the Union Gospel Mission, Deputy Chief Treven Upkes of the Salem Police Department said. Officers were called to the shelter about 7:15 p.m. Sunday, the police department said, adding that the victims suffered "varying types of injuries."

The suspect — identified as Tony Latrell Williams, 42 — was traveling by bus from Portland to Deschutes County when he got off in Salem, the state capital, on Saturday, Salem Police Violent Crimes Unit detectives said. The next night, Williams arrived at the shelter shortly before the call for police assistance. The preliminary investigation suggests the altercation was not a targeted attack.

Craig Smith, executive director of the center, told NBC News late Sunday that the attacker was new to the mission, having spent Saturday night there, and was about to check in for a second night when he got into a fight.

— Associated Press

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Park Service staffing plunges as peak season draws near

Superintendent at Crater Lake departs amid cuts by Trump administration

BY MAXINE JOSELOW

When Kevin Heatley took over as superintendent of Crater Lake National Park in January, he was excited to oversee one of Oregon's most iconic sites, whose stunning vistas and volcanic formations attract roughly half a million visitors each year.

But after less than five months on the job, Heatley hung up his ranger's uniform Friday, citing the Trump administration's staffing cuts at the National Park Service as a major reason for his decision to take a buyout offer.

"It is really not an easy decision and not something I take lightly to walk away from Crater Lake," the 64-year-old said in an interview Friday. "But I'm tired of waking up at 3 in the morning and not being able to fall back asleep because I'm concerned about how I'm going to navigate the latest staffing communiqué."

Even as Elon Musk leaves the Trump administration, the U.S. DOGE Service's purge of federal employees is continuing to upend the lives of Park Service workers. It also threatens to undermine the visitor experience at national parks across the country this summer, when visitation is expected to peak.

And while Interior Secretary Doug Burgum has sought to reassure members of Congress that parks have sufficient staffing, the Park Service's workforce has seen a sharp decline since Donald Trump's inauguration, according to internal Interior Department data obtained by the National Parks Conservation Association, an advocacy group, and shared with The Washington Post.

Burgum testified before the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on interior, environment and related agencies last month that "about 26,500 people work in the park system." But as of May 13, the Park Service had 18,066 employees, according to the internal Interior data.

That marks a nearly 16.5 percent drop in Park Service staff since fiscal 2023, the latest year for which data is available. The decrease includes staff who took buyout offers, deferred resignations and early retirements. It also accounts for vacancies across the agency, including those left by fired probationary workers who opted not to return after a federal judge reinstated them.

"Secretary Burgum's narrative doesn't match the reality unfolding in our parks," Theresa Pierno, president and CEO of the National Parks Conservation Association, said in a statement. "The Park Service is in a full-blown staffing crisis. Thousands of essential positions remain vacant across the system, including roughly 100 superintendent roles."

Asked for comment, a Park Service spokesperson said in an emailed statement: "The Department of the Interior and National Park Service are committed to keeping our beautiful parks open for visitors and delivering results for the American people by focusing resources on our core mission — protecting and preserving our nation's parks. … Visitors can expect the same great service they have had in years past as we have made a lot of progress with hiring and are still onboarding summer seasonal staff."

The spokesperson added that staffing numbers at Yellowstone National Park are higher this year compared with previous years, citing a report in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle of Montana that the park has gained 76 employees since 2021.

Of the Park Service's 18,066 employees, roughly 14,770 are full time, while roughly 3,300 are seasonal or temporary, the data shows. That marks a 39 percent drop since fiscal 2023 in seasonal and temporary workers, who play a crucial role in keeping parks running during the busy summer season.

Burgum also told senators that many Park Service employees focus on information technology or human resources, rather than day-to-day park operations. "We got several thousand people working in IT, and I don't know what they do," he said.

However, the data shows a total of 448 IT and HR positions across the Park Service as of May 13. That represents roughly 2 percent of the agency's workforce.

At Crater Lake National Park, staffing shortages have persisted for the past several years, Heatley said. But they have intensified since Trump took office and imposed a federal hiring freeze, even though some seasonal workers were eventually exempted from the freeze, he said.

If Crater Lake were fully staffed this summer, it would have eight park rangers, said a current park employee who spoke on the condition of anonymity for fear of retaliation. Instead, it has three.

"It's really demoralizing," the employee said. "We were poised to fill two of those positions at the start of the year, but it's been pushed back because of the hiring freeze and then the rush to get all the seasonals hired."

Heatley said low staffing almost forced Crater Lake to cancel a popular annual event called Ride the Rim, in which East Rim Drive is closed to car traffic, allowing thousands of cyclists to enjoy the park on two wheels. But at the last minute, a regional travel bureau called Discover Klamath agreed to provide 40 volunteers for the occasion, he said.

"That's not a sustainable model for running an organization — or a park," Heatley said.

Dan Wenk, who served as superintendent of Yellowstone from 2011 until 2018, when the first Trump administration forced him out, said he understands why Heatley and others are leaving.

"What superintendents are being asked to do is very, very difficult and stressful, so I do not have any negative feelings toward those who are stepping down," Wenk said. "And I very much appreciate those superintendents who made the decision to stay and do everything they can to make sure the park is protected."

As for Heatley, he does not know what will come next in his career. He is not ready to retire, but under the terms of his buyout offer, he can't return to the federal government for the next five years.

"I'll still stay involved in natural resources," he said. "And I'll continue to support Crater Lake however I can, even if it's just as a volunteer."

COURTESY OF KEVIN HEATLEY

Kevin Heatley accepted a buyout offer after less than five months as the superintendent of Crater Lake National Park in Oregon.

N.Y.'s ban on Native American mascots runs into the Trump administration

McMahon says practice violates Civil Rights Act; dispute stirs debate

BY KYLE MELNICK AND TOBI RAJI

Four months ago, a school district in central New York held a pep rally to unveil a new mascot: a hawk wearing aviator goggles. The school had replaced its controversial "Redskins" moniker of more than six decades with the "Skyhawks." Less than two years earlier, a high school in Upstate New York changed its long-standing "Indians" nickname to the "Storm."

Similar changes at scores of schools across the blue state were part of a growing national movement to remove Native American names, icons, mascots and logos that state officials said Indigenous people might find racist.

But those efforts are now under threat after the U.S. Education Department said Friday that a state regulation requiring the modifications was itself discriminatory.

The announcement was the culmination of a federal probe into the dispute between New York's Education Department — which in November 2022 ordered school districts to drop Native American mascots or risk losing state funding — and a Long Island public school district that refused to eliminate its "Chiefs" mascot.

The quarrel received national attention in April, when President Donald Trump called the changes "an affront to our great Indian population," and expressed support for the school district.

"The Trump Administration will not stand idly by as state leaders attempt to eliminate the history and culture of Native American tribes," Education Secretary Linda McMahon said during a Friday visit to Massapequa High School, the Long Island school that has fought to keep its mascot, depicted as a Native American man in a feathered headdress.

McMahon said that by banning the use of Native American themes in schools — while permitting themes derived from other racial or ethnic groups, such as the "Dutchmen," the nickname for an Albany County high school — New York had violated Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, which bars discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin by recipients of federal funding.

The federal agency gave the state 10 days to sign an agreement rescinding the Native American mascot ban and apologizing to Indigenous tribes or risk a referral to the Justice Department for enforcement proceedings and a potential loss of federal funding.

In a statement to The Washington Post, New York State Education Department spokesman JP O'Hare called the federal department's allegations and demands "political theatre."

"If we truly wish to honor our Native American people, we will teach our students the true history of the area's Indigenous people and how they advanced our civilization — rather than perpetuating outdated and disproven myths," O'Hare said.

O'Hare did not say whether New York would comply with the order, but added that the state will respond to the U.S. Education Department "in due course."

The findings have stirred debate among Native American groups, legal experts and politicians about how Title VI should be applied.

Michalyn Steele, a law professor at Brigham Young University, said the U.S. Education Department's findings oppose what civil rights activists have been saying for years.

"It feels like opposite day when you read that opinion," Steele said.

The American Psychological Association recommends removing Native American mascots for the sake of American Indian and Alaska Native's mental health. Steele, who is Native American, said Chief mascots can portray Native Americans as savage, and that the school district's logo might lead one to believe all Indigenous people wore headdresses, when many didn't.

Matthew Fletcher, professor of law at the University of Michigan, said government officials claiming Native American mascot bans are discriminatory is "Orwellian," referencing late author George Orwell's dystopian novel "Nineteen Eighty-Four," in which a fictional government manipulated language to distort reality.

But Oliver Roberts, an attorney representing the Massapequa School District, said the state's ban on Native American mascots prevents tribal groups "from having representation in schools."

"It's only targeting Indigenous people," Roberts said. "It doesn't target any other ethnicity, any other race, so it's purely discriminatory."

The National Congress of American Indians, an advocacy group for American

Indians and Alaska Natives, said in a statement Thursday that it "reaffirms its long-standing opposition to the use of unsanctioned Native 'themed' mascots, caricatures, and symbols."

"These depictions are not tributes — they are rooted in racism, cultural appropriation, and intentional ignorance," the statement said.

Although many other tribal groups share that opinion, some disagree.

The Native American Guardians Association, which has argued against the removal of Native names and imagery and filed a complaint with the federal government over the Massapequa School District dispute, said it was pleased with the agency's finding.

"Indian removal is a form of racism that must immediately cease," said Tony Henson, the group's president.

New York education officials had given school districts until the end of this school year to replace Native American names, mascots and logos. As of June 2024, more than five dozen schools in the state had phased out Native themes from their names and mascots, according to WTEN, an Albany news station. Dozens of schools across the United States have made similar changes in recent years.

But the Massapequa School District challenged the state's order, alleging in a lawsuit in September 2023 that its logo "is meant to honor the area's Native American roots." Judge Margo Brodie of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York dismissed the case in March.

The school district filed an amended complaint May 19.

In April, Trump wrote on Truth Social: "I am asking my highly capable Secretary of Education, Linda McMahon, to fight for the people of Massapequa on this very important issue. LONG LIVE THE MASSAPEQUA CHIEFS!"

Days later, the Education Department's Office for Civil Rights launched its investigation.

In addition to rescinding the prohibition, the Education Department's proposed resolution agreement would require New York officials to issue letters of apology to Indigenous tribes, acknowledging that they "silenced the voices of Native Americans and attempted to erase Native American history," the federal agency said.

JULIA DEMAREE NIKHINSON/AP

A school district refused to change the mascot at Massapequa High School in New York; the U.S. Education Department got involved.

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Texas bid to require proof of citizenship to vote fails, but wider effort not over

BY PATRICK MARLEY AND YVONNE WINGETT SANCHEZ

A bid in Texas to establish one of the most unwieldy voting laws in the nation flamed out this week, but a broader effort backed by President Donald Trump to demand that voters throughout the country provide proof of citizenship is hardly dead.

Not only could the Texas bill resurface, but three other states over the past nine months have adopted similar laws requiring voters to provide proof of citizenship, and a raft of others are considering them.

Across the country, only citizens can vote in state and federal elections, and voting by noncitizens is rare. Most states require people to sign statements swearing they are citizens when they register to vote, and they can be criminally charged and deported if they falsely sign them. The recent legislation goes further by requiring voters to prove they are citizens by providing a birth certificate, passport or naturalization papers.

Supporters saw Texas as an important place to lay a marker because it is controlled by Republicans, shares a border with Mexico and has the second-largest population in the country — including 18.6 million registered voters. Republicans called the legislation a common-sense way to prevent noncitizens from casting ballots, while Democrats and voting rights advocates said it risked preventing eligible citizens from getting on the rolls because of missing paperwork, database errors, or a lack of time or resources to track down documents.

CARLOS KOSIENSKI/SIPA USA/AP

People line up for early voting in San Antonio on Oct. 21. Texas's Senate passed a bill requiring voters to provide proof of citizenship, but it didn't get through the House before its session ended Monday.

Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick (R), a Trump ally, made proof-of-citizenship legislation a priority, and the state Senate approved it in April. But it didn't get through the Texas House before the legislative session wrapped up Monday. The bill's sponsors and legislative leaders did not cite a specific issue that doomed the measure. But it was competing with other Republican priorities, including legislation to create a school voucher program, cut property taxes, ban THC and display the Ten Commandments in classrooms.

The citizenship measures in Texas and other states are premised on Trump's false claims that large numbers of noncitizens are registering to vote and casting ballots. In fact, researchers and courts have found few instances of noncitizens registering to vote, and even fewer voting. For instance, a federal judge in 2018 determined that over a 19-year period, about three dozen noncitizens were placed on the voter rolls in Kansas, most often because of errors.

Trump sought to advance his citizenship plans in March with an executive order requiring proof of citizenship when using a federal form to register to vote, but a judge blocked his plan a month later. In April, the U.S. House passed legislation requiring all voters to provide proof of citizenship, but the bill's fate in the Senate is uncertain. Republicans have turned their attention to state legislation, but the failure of the Texas legislation shows they face challenges even in states they control.

With Texas's legislation sidelined, Gov. Greg Abbott and other Republicans highlighted a different measure — a proposed amendment to the state constitution that will appear on the ballot in November that specifies that only U.S. citizens can vote.

The amendment would not require voters to submit proof of citizenship but would ensure local governments don't pass policies allowing noncitizens to vote in school or municipal elections. Voters in eight states approved similar ballot measures last year by wide margins. Around the country, about two dozen local governments allow noncitizens to vote in school or municipal races. They include D.C. and communities in California, Maryland and Vermont.

A spokesperson for Abbott did not say whether the governor would consider calling a special legislative session to require voters to provide proof of citizenship. Instead, he noted Abbott's support for the less restrictive amendment to the state constitution.

Jill Tate, vice president of legislation for the Texas Federation of Republican Women, said state lawmakers ran out of time to advance the proof-of-citizenship legislation. Like the governor, Tate praised the separate proposed amendment to the state constitution.

"Anything we can do to make sure our elections are accurate and fair is important," Tate said. "We had a lot on the table this session — a lot of big topics."

Anthony Gutierrez, executive director of the voting rights group Common Cause Texas, credited the bill's defeat in part to the work of opponents who testified at committee hearings and talked to lawmakers. But, he noted, the measure could reemerge in a special session.

"A lot is still in flux, and we're keeping an eye on a lot of things moving in Texas," he said.

Proof-of-citizenship efforts continue elsewhere. Legislation has been introduced in half the states this year, according to the nonpartisan Voting Rights Lab, which tracks election-related proposals across the nation. In Ohio, the Republican floor leader in the state Senate is spearheading the effort. In Michigan, two conservative groups plan to gather signatures this year to put proof-of-citizenship measures on the ballot next year, giving voters a chance to weigh in directly.

The proposals in Michigan took off after a University of Michigan student from China was charged with illegally voting in the November election, said Fred Wszolek, a spokesman for the Committee to Protect Voters' Rights, an organization behind one of the petition drives. The student missed an April court hearing and has fled the country, according to the FBI. Michigan election officials have determined that another 15 noncitizens may have also voted, and the state attorney general is reviewing whether to charge them.

Wszolek said those cases will help organizers gather signatures to get their proposal on the ballot and get voters to sign off on it at the polls. "We'll make sure it crosses the finish line," he said.

Since late August, three states — Louisiana, New Hampshire and Wyoming — have approved proof-of-citizenship laws, and voting rights groups have sued over them. The states join Arizona, which for years has required voters to provide proof of citizenship to register to vote in local and state elections.

The Supreme Court in 2013 ruled Arizona could not require voters to provide proof of citizenship for federal elections under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993. The recent state laws are expected to open new legal questions that could make their way to the justices in the coming years.

DOGE reforms aren't making government more efficient, many workers say

DOGE FROM A1

Similar layers of new red tape are plaguing federal staffers throughout the government under the second Trump administration, stymieing work and delaying simple transactions, according to interviews with more than three dozen federal workers across 19 agencies and records obtained by The Washington Post. Many of the new hurdles, federal workers said, stem from changes imposed by the U.S. DOGE Service, Elon Musk's cost-cutting team, which burst into government promising to eradicate waste, fraud and abuse and trim staff and spending.

The team's overarching goal was in its name: DOGE stands for Department of Government Efficiency, although it is not part of the Cabinet. But as Musk departed government on Friday, many federal workers said DOGE has in many ways had the opposite effect.

DOGE's intense scrutiny of federal spending is forcing employees to spend hours justifying even the most basic purchases. New rules mandating review and approval by political appointees are leaving thousands of contracts and projects on ice for months. Large-scale firings spearheaded by DOGE have cut support offices — especially IT shops — that assisted federal workers with issues ranging from glitching computers to broken desk chairs. And the piecemeal reassignment of staff is causing significant lags in work in some agencies, notably Social Security, as inexperienced workers adjust to new roles.

Meanwhile, most everyone, across every agency, is dealing with fallout from new policies or executive orders — even as colleagues continue to resign or retire, increasing the workload for those who remain.

"Leadership is overcome with meetings and questions from people on how this will all work. The Human Resource teams have conflicting information, and confusion reigns," said one Defense Department employee who, like others interviewed for this article, spoke on the condition of anonymity for fear of losing his job. Every day, he said, it feels like "each person still standing is battling a dozen fires."

Many presidents try to reshape the sprawling federal bureaucracy to achieve their specific policy goals, said George Krause, a University of Georgia professor who studies public administration. Such efforts span Democratic and Republican administrations back to Richard M. Nixon, whose political appointees were known for clashing with career federal executives, Krause said.

But the DOGE-driven efforts appear to be backfiring in ways that other initiatives did not.

"What Musk showed is that you cannot do this without a plan, and if you do it without a plan that respects some of the functions of government that everybody wants, then what's going to happen is you'll end up making the government less efficient, and not more efficient," said Elaine Kamarck, director of the Center for Effective Public Management at the Brookings Institution and a former Clinton administration official.

ALLISON ROBBERT/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

President Donald Trump's administration has claimed to improve the federal government's efficiency, but many workers say the U.S. DOGE Service reforms have ground the government to a halt.

White House spokesman Harrison Fields said in a statement that, through DOGE, "President Trump is curbing government waste and reforming a system that has long burdened American taxpayers." He added: "Anyone resistant to these critical reforms has had ample opportunity to step aside, but the work of DOGE will press forward unobstructed."

The State Department on Saturday shared an emailed statement from a "senior official" it declined to name: "The State Department will never apologize for putting processes in place to ensure taxpayer dollars are used correctly. It's what the American people expect and deserve." But on Friday, almost exactly 24 hours after a Post reporter asked about the requirement that international vendors certify they do not promote DEI, State had issued guidance rescinding that mandate for staff overseas, according to a directive obtained by The Post.

'Holding up everything'

At NASA, employees recently wrote several detailed paragraphs, across multiple rounds of emails, to win approval to buy simple fastening bolts, according to a staffer and records obtained by The Post.

Within the General Services Administration, the government's real estate arm, more than 1,500 project requests — included fully executed leases and notices saying construction can begin — backed up in an internal tracker awaiting political appointees' attention, records show. Some items waited for months, and almost 200 are still on hold, while about 300 were never approved, an employee said.

And at the Food and Drug Administration, once-routine tests on food — monitoring for accuracy in labeling, coloring and exposure to heavy metals — were delayed significantly, a former employee said. That's because the agency began requiring department-level approval for expenses at every step: Purchasing samples to test. Paying to ship samples between labs. Buying lab supplies.

This hands-on approach reflects the Trump administration's drive to rein in what officials see as decades of unsupervised, wasteful federal spending. Speaking in the Oval Office in early February, Trump said, without providing evidence, that there are "billions and billions of dollars in waste, fraud and abuse … That's one of the reasons I got elected."

Citing the example of the Treasury Department, Musk claimed the government is missing "basic controls that should be in place that are in place in any company," such as categorizing payments by code and providing justifications for each expense. (Systems to do both already existed across agencies.)

And so shortly after Trump's inauguration, DOGE imposed a $1 federal credit card freeze and limited purchasing power to only a handful of people in many departments, decisions that have incapacitated parts of agencies as varied as the National Park Service and the Pentagon. Soon, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Commerce Department required that political appointees green-light many funds before disbursement. In April, DOGE wrested control of a federal grants website used to dole out billions each year.

Many federal employees said they supported closer inspections of how the government spends money. But in practice, they said, the Trump administration's chokehold is tangling up basic, everyday tasks.

The results seem to run counter to the goal of efficiency.

At air traffic control towers at two dozen West Coast airports, officials are unable to easily pay to have the windows washed and shades cleaned, said a Federal Aviation Administration employee. A DOGE-ordered overhaul of the payments system means FAA staffers must write statements justifying all expenditures, the employee said — not just for window-washing, but also elevator maintenance and even pens and pencils, the employee said. Purchase orders that used to take 15 or 20 minutes to fill out now consume 1 or 2 hours for each tower.

"These are things that people don't think about, but clean windows are crucial for controllers," the employee said. Because he is so often busy with purchase justifications, he has fallen behind on landscaping, fire alarm safety and pest control, all of which are "staples in the air traffic towers," he said.

The added reviews extend beyond financial issues to questions of policy and political speech, including press releases.

At some parts of the National Institutes of Health, per an employee there, every grant must now be fed through an AI tool to screen for references to concepts deemed unpalatable by the Trump administration, such as "DEI, transgender, China, or vaccine hesitancy," the employee said. Further delaying grants is another new requirement: NIH staff must check to ensure the recipient isn't on the list of colleges and universities that have drawn Trump's wrath, including Columbia, Harvard, Northwestern, Brown and Cornell.

At the State Department, employees are spending hours combing through official documents to remove the words "diverse," equitable" and "inclusive," said a staffer there, months after Trump issued his executive order ending diversity efforts.

NASA, the NIH, GSA, the FDA and the FAA did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

'Nobody is working at top efficiency'

The administration's ongoing shake-ups of the workforce, from buyout offers to firings to sweeping reorganizations, are also undermining efficiency.

At the Social Security Administration, for example, Trump officials and DOGE pushed thousands of central-office workers to take lower-level positions answering phones in field offices, threatening to fire whoever did not make the jump, according to emails reviewed by The Post and interviews with a half dozen agency employees.

Chaos has ensued across field offices in the weeks since the reassignments took effect, staffers said. Claims processing has bogged down as regular field office staff — already overburdened because of widespread resignations and retirements — are pulled off their normal duties to train incoming administrators and analysts.

But the backlog means the trainings are being shortened and rushed through, employees said, so inexperienced, reassigned staffers start work unprepared. That leads to more mistakes, more requests for help and more backed-up claims — and more time wasted all around.

To sum it up, "you now have half the staff with very little knowledge of how to do the work," one relocated staffer said. "And the other half of staff overwhelmed with work and unable to really train or mentor these new folks."

Asked about the reassignments, Social Security provided an emailed statement from an unnamed official, whom it declined to identify. The statement said DOGE's work at Social Security had charted a new, better course for the agency.

"The voluntary reassignment of approximately 2,000 employees to direct service positions has not caused disruptions at the agency," the statement read. "As these employees complete their training and become fully proficient in their new positions, they will further accelerate the progress the agency is making."

DOGE reorganized other agencies by dismissing gobs of technical staffers, or incentivizing them to resign, and centralizing IT services. Although it sounded good in theory, said one Interior Department staffer, in practice, it meant he lost his in-office IT contact. He used to pop around the corner to ask for assistance — now, help tickets take up to three days.

In other places, staff dismissals or departures are tripping up operations, as employees struggle to keep up with a sharply increased workload.

Within one FDA office, a reduction in force removed everyone who worked in administrative support, a former staffer said: The people who coordinated travel, ran purchasing and processed personnel paperwork. Remaining staff were given general email addresses to contact, the staffer said, "but no names."

Asked for comment, a range of agencies asserted that Trump was improving efficiency, not hurting it.

"President Trump's decisive actions have allowed us to eliminate bureaucratic waste," said an Interior department spokesperson.

"We are replacing outdated, sluggish systems with streamlined, mission-driven operations," said an HHS spokesperson, "following years of unchecked spending, bureaucratic bloat, and ideologically driven initiatives that strayed from serving the American people."

But other employees say that strict imposition of Trump's return-to-office rule and requirements that federal workers must be in their seats from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. sharp are frustrating staffers, who say their productivity and drive have dropped.

Within a research arm of the Defense Department, staff no longer take work home or travel to conferences on weekends, noted one employee.

At FEMA, people have to take a day off or work a half-day to make medical appointments, rather than working remotely and missing fewer hours, said a staffer there.

One Department of Homeland Security staffer noted that after her hours were changed to 9-5, it briefly prevented her from attending an 8 a.m. meeting — until higher-ups realized the problem and changed it. (DHS Assistant Secretary Tricia McLaughlin wrote in a statement that "meetings being moved is a small price to pay for federal employees to finally be back in their taxpayer funded offices to do their work for the American people.")

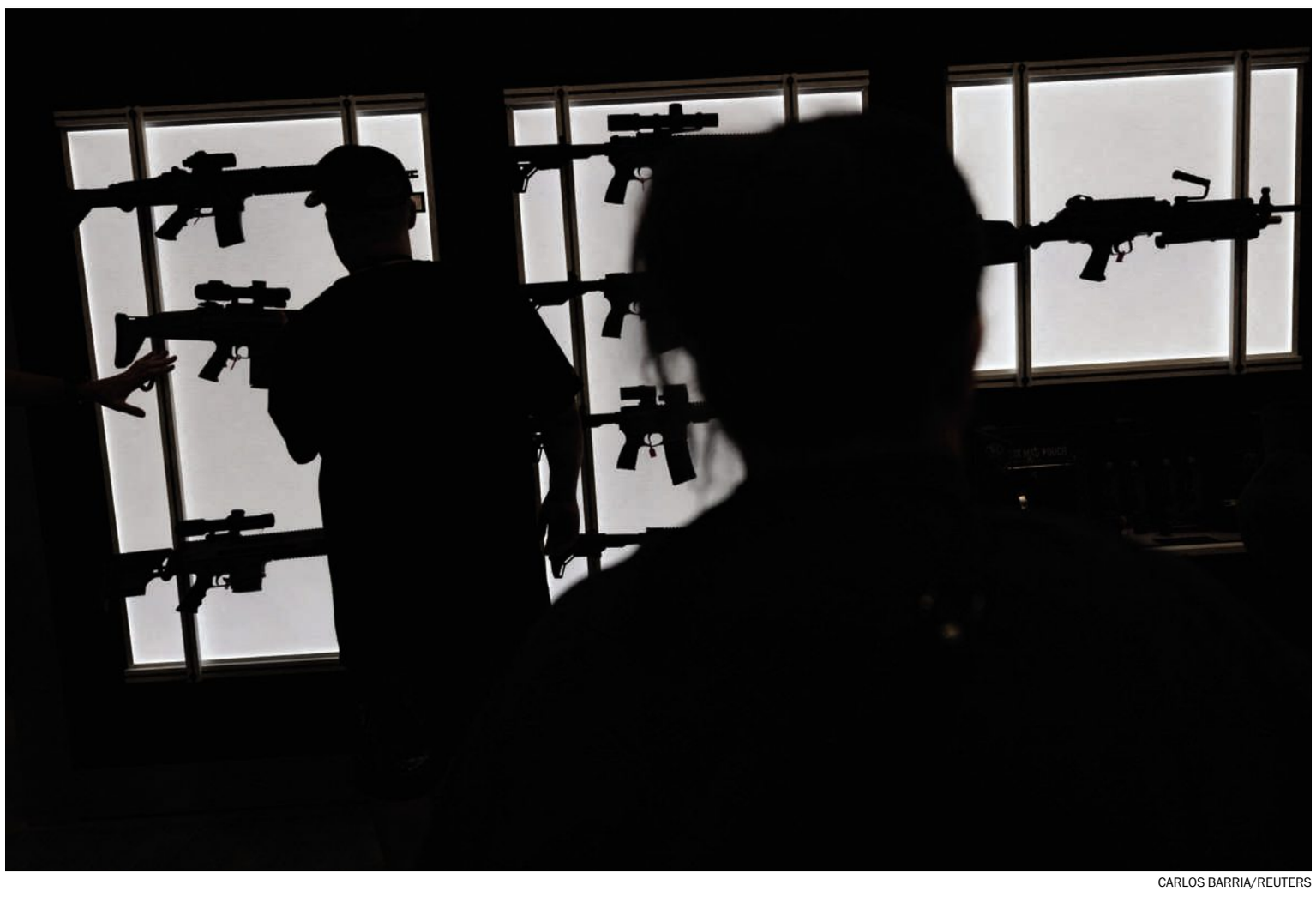
Atop everything else, frayed, fatigued federal workers have little capacity left to do their jobs well, or at all, they said.

"People are so demoralized, anxious and sleep deprived," said a NASA employee. "Nobody is working at top efficiency."

Justices decline to take up gun rights cases, leaving in place Md., R.I. limits

Supreme Court also adds four cases to its docket for next term

BY ANN E. MARIMOW AND JUSTIN JOUVENAL



CARLOS BARRIA/REUTERS

A man looks at an AR-15 rifle at an exhibition booth in Dallas in 2024 during the National Rifle Association's annual convention.

The Supreme Court declined to take up a pair of gun rights cases Monday, leaving in place Maryland's ban on semiautomatic military-style rifles and Rhode Island's restrictions on large-capacity magazines holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition.

The court's action drew dissents from three conservatives, showing that the Supreme Court is still divided on how to handle Second Amendment cases after the justices expanded gun rights in a 2022 landmark decision.

Justice Clarence Thomas said the high court should have reviewed the lower-court ruling in the Maryland case and not put off the question of whether the government can ban the most popular rifle in America. The answer, he wrote, is of "critical importance to tens of millions of law-abiding AR-15 owners throughout the country."

The two other dissenters were Justices Samuel A. Alito Jr. and Neil M. Gorsuch.

Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh agreed with the decision to sidestep the cases for now, but wrote separately to caution against reading too much into Maryland's ban remaining intact. He called the lower-court ruling upholding the law "questionable" and said the Supreme Court should eventually address the validity of bans on assault-style rifles like the AR-15 in the next term or two.

The decision not to take up the gun cases came on the same day the justices decided to hear four other cases for the next term.

The Supreme Court will decide on a challenge brought by an Illinois congressman and two Republican presidential electors who say a state law that allows for the collection and counting of absentee ballots after Election Day violates federal election statutes.

In another case, a U.S. Army specialist who was seriously wounded by a suicide bomber in Afghanistan is asking the Supreme Court to rule that federal contractors do not have immunity from civil suits filed under state law.

Winston Hencely sued the Fluor Corp., a military contractor, after an Afghan man the company had hired at the Bagram air base built an explosive vest while unsupervised and then detonated it, gravely wounding Hencely.

The justices will also hear a case involving a class-action lawsuit brought by migrants who claim they were forced to do work for little or no pay while being held at a private detention facility in Aurora, Colorado, in violation of a state law against forced labor. The case concerns a technical question about the contractor's claim that it has sovereign immunity from being sued.

In the fourth case, the justices will examine what standards must be met for law enforcement officers to enter a home without a search warrant when they believe an emergency might be occurring inside, in a case originating in Montana. The courts have split over whether probable cause — or a lesser standard — is required in such circumstances.

The court's action drew dissents from three conservatives, showing that the Supreme Court is still divided on how to handle Second Amendment cases.

Maryland passed its ban on high-powered rifles in response to the 2012 massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut in which an AR-15 was used to kill 20 children and six adults.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit upheld Maryland's restrictions as consistent with the Second Amendment.

"Our nation has a strong tradition of regulating excessively dangerous weapons once it becomes clear that they are exacting an inordinate toll on public safety and societal well-being," Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson III, a nominee of President Ronald Reagan, wrote in an opinion that repeatedly cited the Supreme Court's 2008 decision in *District of Columbia v. Heller* declaring a Second Amendment right to possess a firearm at home for self-defense.

In 2022, the Supreme Court further expanded gun rights in its decision in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* that required the government for the first time to point to historical analogues when defending laws that place restrictions on guns. Earlier this term, the Supreme Court also upheld a Biden-era ban on ghost guns.

Gun rights groups challenging Maryland's law noted that AR-15s and other assault-style rifles are the best-selling rifles in the country, owned by millions of Americans and accounting for about 20 percent of all firearms sales in the country for more than a decade.

They urged the Supreme Court to "to ensure that the Second Amendment itself is not truncated into a limited right to own certain state-approved means of personal self-defense." Lower courts, they added, are asking the justices for further guidance about how to apply the Supreme Court's new test.

Maryland Attorney General Anthony G. Brown (D), whose office defended the ban, said in a statement that the Supreme Court's action Monday means "a critical law that prevents senseless and preventable deaths will remain in effect," adding that his office will "do whatever we can to protect Marylanders from this horrific violence."

The Firearms Policy Coalition, one of the groups challenging the ban, expressed frustration in a statement that the Supreme Court "continues to allow lower courts to treat the Second Amendment as a second-class right" and urged Trump's solicitor general, D. John Sauer, to join the group in "loudly encouraging the Court to take up quality Second Amendment cases."

In the Rhode Island case, an appeals court upheld the state's ban on high-capacity magazines, finding that it does not impose a significant burden on residents seeking to defend themselves.

"Civilian self-defense rarely — if ever — calls for the rapid and uninterrupted discharge of many shots, much less more than ten," the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 1st Circuit said in its ruling.

The appeals court said the law is consistent with the state's ban on other items "associated with criminal activity" such as silencers and armor-piercing bullets.

The law, passed in response to the rise in mass shootings, gives owners 180 days to comply by modifying their magazines, selling them to firearms dealers, removing them from the state or turning them over to law enforcement.

The justices also declined to take the case of a Texas stripper who sued two clubs claiming they discriminated against Black dancers. Chanel Nicholson, who is Black, says she was turned away from work on occasions because managers felt there were already too many Black dancers working.

A federal judge and then an appeals court ruled for the clubs, determining that the statute of limitations had expired on her claims. The first acts of alleged discrimination occurred in 2014 but continued off and on until she filed her legal claim in 2021.

The appeals court found "her denial of access to the club ... on account of her race" in 2021 was "merely a continued effect of the first alleged discriminatory act that took place in 2014."

Justices Ketanji Brown Jackson and Sonia Sotomayor dissented from the majority's decision not to take the case, saying each new act of discrimination starts a new clock to file a civil action.

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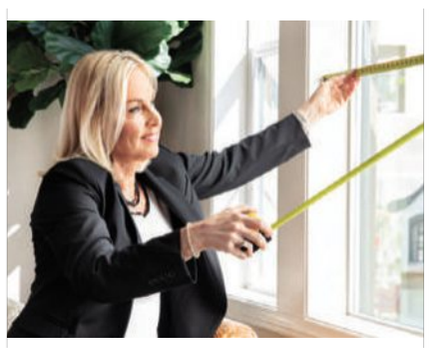

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In D.C., quiet movement became a loud roar

PRIDE FROM **A1**

shaped the country. Memorials to LGBTQ history may be less well known, but they are key to understanding the place of LGBTQ people in the American story.

Lafayette Square

At night during the Roaring Twenties, men strolled the "old square" and sat on the benches under the grand magnolias and blossoming crabapples of Lafayette Square, across from the White House.

Their felt hats slightly lowered, they locked eyes with others looking for something that couldn't be sought in the light of day 100 years ago.

"It happened like this: I went to Lafayette Square and found a seat in the deep shade of the big beech. It was the best bench in the park," an author with the pen name Jeb Alexander wrote on Aug. 23, 1920, in a diary chronicling gay life in D.C. A man sat down beside him, "in a green suit with a blue dotted tie. He has beautiful eyes and sensuous lips. He wants to become a diplomat ..."

The nation's capital was quietly a gay mecca in the early part of the 20th century, when LGBTQ people closeted in their small towns escaped to work for the government. The New Deal expanded the federal workforce, and the nation's capital became a city for fresh starts.

That changed when Lt. Roy Blick was promoted to head of the vice squad in the D.C. Police Department. On June 19, 1947, the Evening Star reported Blick's arrest of 41 men after a "routine cleanup" of Lafayette Square.

That year, the U.S. Park Police began a "Sex Perversion Elimination Program" and regularly updated President Harry S. Truman on the arrests. In 1948, Congress passed D.C. Public Law 615, "for the treatment of sexual psychopaths," which cleared a path for the arrest and punishment of LGBTQ people in Washington.

The growing arrest list became fodder for blackmail and purges known as the Lavender Scare, which was named for Sen. Everett Dirksen's (R-Illinois) label for gay men in 1952 — "lavender lads." The Lavender Scare mirrored McCarthyism's Red Scare targeting suspected communists, but its impact was larger.

"While more widely remembered by history, the Red Scare produced few results," the National Park Service wrote. ". . . Conversely, the oft-forgotten Lavender Scare victimized Americans in their workplace and beyond for the latter part of the 20th century."

In 1953, a 25-year-old University of Chicago student was arrested after allegedly soliciting an undercover detective. It was Lester C. Hunt Jr., the son of Sen. Lester Hunt (D-Wyoming).

Hunt had been publicly feuding with Sen. Joseph McCarthy (R-Wisconsin). Senate historians said Hunt called the Red Scare architect a "liar" and "opportunist." The charges against Hunt's son were dropped. But two Republican senators agitated to have them restored and Hunt Jr. was tried and fined, according to a letter the son wrote to the U.S. attorney general in 2015 asking for a formal review of his father's case.

The senators told Hunt that his son's conviction "would become a major campaign issue" unless he dropped his reelection campaign, according to the Senate's official history. Hunt abruptly withdrew from the race, citing health reasons.

But Hunt believed the torment of his son and the election wouldn't end because he dropped out of the race, according to Senate historians.

On June 19, 1954, he hid a .22 Winchester rifle under his coat and headed to his Senate office. Minutes after he got there, he sat at his desk and shot himself in the right temple.

McCarthy was censured by Congress later that year. The Hunt family didn't speak about the affair until 2013, when Wyoming historian Rodger McDaniel interviewed Lester Hunt Jr. for a biography of his father, "Dying for Joe McCarthy's Sins — The Suicide of Wyoming Senator Lester Hunt."

The Mattachine Society

It was Frank E. Kameny, a suit-wearing scientist in D.C., who led the first public protest of discrimination against LGBTQ people in the United States.

A Harvard University graduate, World War II veteran, astronomer with the Army Map Service and professor at Georgetown University, Kameny was quiet and studious.

Then, the federal government fired him for being gay. And a radical was born.

On April 17, 1965, Kameny gathered 10 people to take a public stand. The men had crew cuts and suits, the women wore dresses and stockings, and they picketed outside the White House at 4:30 p.m. — quitting time at federal offices.

They were fighting President Dwight D. Eisenhower's Executive Order 10450, which made ruining the lives of queer people a government policy in 1953. The order said "sexual perversion" was grounds for outing and firing federal employees.

Thousands were targeted — including Kameny, who was fired in 1957. His appeal was rejected by the Supreme Court. He wrote dozens of letters to lawmakers and presidents.

In 1961, Kameny founded the D.C. branch of the Mattachine Society, an organization with several chapters across the United States that was named for the French society of masked dancers who criticized social norms with pointed satire.

Although other chapters were primarily support groups, Kameny turned his into a vehicle for radical activism. His brick Colonial house in Northwest Washington became the national headquarters for a growing civil rights movement.

At first, it was mostly White and male. Then women like Eva Freund joined the group and bucked the sexism within it.

"The men in Mattachine thought the women were just there to take care of them," Freund said in a 2019 interview with The Washington Post. She became fluent in Robert's Rules of Order, ensuring that lesbians were heard and acknowledged.

They printed newsletters and pamphlets and continued their protests outside the State Department and Pentagon. They joined marches in Philadelphia and New York.

In 1971, Kameny became the first openly gay American to run for a seat in Congress. He didn't win, but in 1973 he advocated for the passage of Title 34, the nation's first citywide human rights ordinance making it illegal to discriminate against LGBTQ people in the areas of employment, education and housing.

Gay Corner at Congressional Cemetery

A cluster of tiny rocks always sits atop Leonard Matlovich's headstone in Washington's Congressional Cemetery, placed as prayers and gratitude by visitors. It's a pilgrimage made by thousands.

The engraving in black granite reads: "WHEN I WAS IN THE MILITARY THEY GAVE ME A MEDAL FOR KILLING TWO MEN AND A DISCHARGE FOR LOVING ONE."

Matlovich was a closeted airman who had earned a Bronze Star and Purple Heart until March 6, 1975 — the day he handed his Air Force commander a letter.

"After some years of uncertainty, I have arrived at the conclusion that my sexual preferences are homosexual," it began.

That fall, Matlovich's face was on the cover of Time magazine. "I Am a Homosexual," the headline stated.

Matlovich had been inspired by Frank Kameny's activism and offered himself as the test case to challenge bigotry in the military. They carefully crafted Matlovich's coming-out letter.

Despite his combat medals and continued exemplary service, Matlovich was ruled unfit for the military and discharged. (The Air Force was forced by court order to reinstate him and offer back pay, but he didn't return to the military.) Instead, became a vocal advocate for gay rights over the next decade.

In his final act, Matlovich created what may be the only LGBTQ section of a cemetery in the world. And it started as a wry joke.

A stone's throw from what is now known as Gay Corner is the grave of former FBI director J. Edgar Hoover, who died in 1972.

Hoover led a program compiling thousands of pages of information on the sex lives of Washington's powerful. Near his plot is that of his close adviser, Clyde Tolson. There has been speculation that the two were more than co-workers, but historians have never found evidence to confirm the rumors.

Matlovich bought two plots near Hoover and Tolson. He died in 1988 at 44 after being diagnosed with AIDS.

"It was his way of having the last laugh," said A.J. Orlikoff, Interim Executive Director of the cemetery, "forcing FBI Agents visiting Hoover's grave to walk past the grave of someone so openly gay."

The corner has since expanded to be the final resting place of dozens more LGBTQ Washingtonians. It's a popular stop on gay history tours and the occasional setting for same-sex weddings.

The Furies Collective

"We call our paper The FURIES because we are also angry," Ginny Z. Berson wrote in 1972, in

ASTRID RIECKEN/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

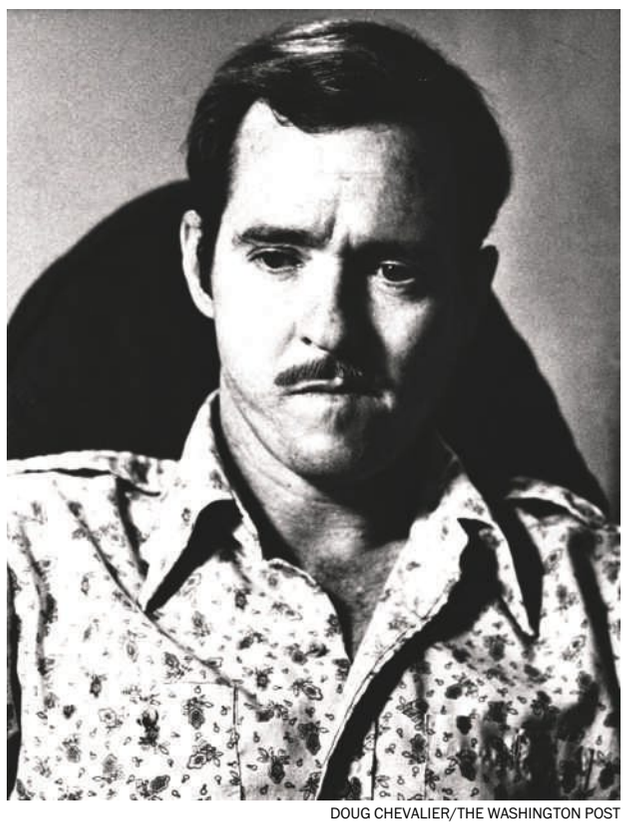
Activists rally at the Supreme Court on April 28, 2015, the day the bench heard oral arguments in Obergefell v. Hodges, the landmark same-sex marriage case.

WILLIAM J. SMITH/AP

Sen. Lester Hunt killed himself in 1954 after his son was arrested and outed.

SARAH L. VOISIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Eva Freund is an original member of Washington's Mattachine Society.



DOUG CHEVALIER/THE WASHINGTON POST

Air Force Sgt. Leonard P. Matlovich, shown in 1975.

RICKY CARIOTI/THE WASHINGTON POST

Matlovich, the first service member to fight the military's ban, is buried at Congressional Cemetery.

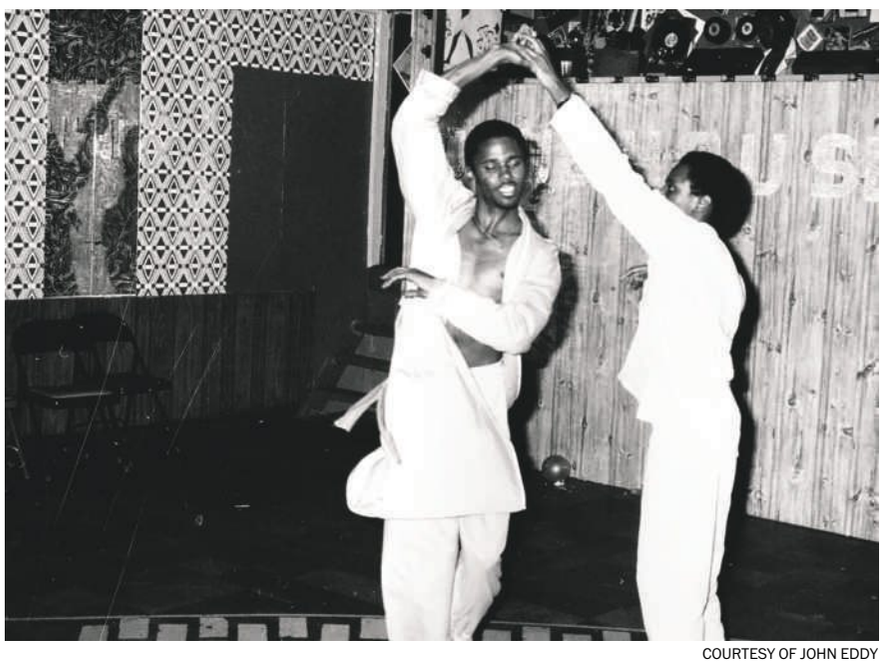
FRANK JOHNSTON/THE WASHINGTON POST

Volunteers work to lay out the AIDS Memorial Quilt, which at that point comprised more than 40,000 panels, on the National Mall in October 1996.

the furies
lesbian/feminist monthly
june - july 1972
volume 1 issue 5
35¢
"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman
from cavities of bones spun
Photo by Sharon Dooley

THE FURIES COLLECTION, COURTESY OF THE RAINBOW HISTORY PROJECT

An issue of the Furies, a radical magazine published by a lesbian collective.



COURTESY OF JOHN EDDY

Two men dance at the ClubHouse, a 1970s gay club that attracted celebrities.

LARRY MORRIS/THE WASHINGTON POST

The AIDS Quilt, shown in 1996; today, the quilt has more than 50,000 panels.

The nation's capital was quietly a gay mecca in the early part of the 20th century, when LGBTQ people closeted in their small towns escaped to work for the government.

the inaugural edition of a radical, feminist newspaper run out of the basement of a brick rowhouse on Capitol Hill.

"We are angry because we are oppressed by male supremacy," Berson wrote. "We are working to change the system which has kept us separate and powerless for so long."

The Furies Collective was a group of 12 lesbians who said it all out loud. Their newspaper, in an age of mimeographs and hand delivery, reached 5,000 readers across the nation.

They organized meetings and ran workshops on car repair and self defense. They had film festivals and softball games. They wanted nothing to do with men and little to do with straight women.

"We considered ourselves a revolutionary cadre, and our intention was to overthrow the patriarchy and capitalism," Berson, a member of the collective, said in a recent interview.

D.C. was "a hotbed of political activism" in the early 1970s, and the lesbian feminists Berson met led to an epiphany. "You mean, I don't have to live my life in order to please men?" Berson said. "It was astonishing. It was a liberation."

The rowhouse in Southeast D.C. was perfect, with room for wide layout tables for publishing and space for meetings.

"Women have been kept down in many ways," Lee Schwing wrote in one of the pieces about her new karate habit and how her strong, thickening torso and sculpted arms challenged the beauty standards of the day.

"Women are rarely encouraged to be strong, because it is undesirable to men," she wrote.

The collective adopted an ethos that "any woman who's sleeping with a man is basically sleeping with the enemy."

Berson recently laughed a little at that radical thought: "We were a little extreme."

Gay clubs

Washington was a buttoned-up, bureaucrat's world during the day. But at night, the scene was vibrant.

At least 200 LGBTQ clubs have operated over the past 100 years in D.C. The Rainbow History Project, an organization that has amassed a thorough history of LGBTQ D.C. history, plotted the often-segregated clubs on its mapping archive.

The Chicken Hut was the hot spot for gay White Washington in the 1950s. A block away from the White House, it operated from 1948 until the 1970s, hosting drag shows and piano tunes.

For queer Black Washington, discrimination was twofold: The government was actively hunting homosexual men and women in workplaces, bars and parks at a time when racial discrimination was still codified by federal law.

In 1953, a rowhouse on Kenyon Street NW in Columbia Heights became a word-of-mouth house party and sanctuary for gay Black men.

It opened its doors wide to the public in 1957 as a club called Nob Hill. When it closed in 2004, it was acknowledged as one of the longest-operating LGBTQ bars in the nation.

But nothing bumped like the The ClubHouse in the 1970s. Inspired by New York City's Loft and Studio 54, it was the epicenter of Chocolate City's gay nightlife, tucked in a residential neighborhood near a high school.

At the time, Black people "got hassled getting into the white clubs. You needed two or three IDs and all of this stuff," said Kwabena Rainey Cheeks, who was working construction when John Eddy and other friends recruited him to turn a gutted commercial garage into one of the hottest scenes on the East Coast.

In the 1970s, the scene flourished in the D.C. warehouse district surrounding South Capitol Street. Cinema Follies was where largely closeted, queer men came for adult films. It was equally popular with police for raids and arrests, becoming a rallying point for activists who fought police profiling.

In 1977, a fire engulfed the theater and killed nine people. A former Marine and Republican congressman outed themselves as survivors.

It took days to identify the victims. Many of them were married with children. There was a pastor, a congressional aide, an Army major, a hairdresser and an economist with the World Bank.

The National Mall

The AIDS epidemic hit the United States in 1981, the year President Ronald Reagan took office. Washington was frigid to the gay community.

"If we take a look at the Federal Government's response to the AIDS crisis it leads unavoidably to the conclusion that within this administration, there is a sharp contrast between the rhetoric of concern and the reality of response," Virginia Apuzzo, executive director of the National Gay Task Force, said during a congressional hearing in 1983.

A year later, a gaunt Rock Hudson came to the White House for a party. Nancy Reagan was alarmed by his appearance and wrote him a letter urging him to get a mole she spotted on his neck checked out. He was diagnosed with AIDS, and the Reagans distanced themselves from him until his death in 1985, according to Kate Andersen Brower's biography, "Elizabeth Taylor: The Grit & Glamour of an Icon."

In Washington, the Gay Men's VD Clinic — later rebranded the Whitman-Walker Clinic — opened a full-time AIDS clinic by 1986, following similar facilities in San Francisco and New York.

The federal government finally began to step up in the wake of a 1986 report issued by the National Academy of Sciences titled "Confronting AIDS."

Public health campaigns reached out to the gay community with condom-promoting posters featuring scantily clad men. That riled some on Capitol Hill.

Then-Sen. Jesse Helms (R-North Carolina) said the disease was a result of "unnatural" and "disgusting" behavior.

But Helms's 1987 purity campaign was eclipsed when a memorial the length of two football fields was unfurled on the nation's front lawn on an October morning. The AIDS quilt, with panels honoring 1,920 victims of the disease, showed the nation the tangible scope, size and humanity of the crisis. The massive, growing quilt was unfolded on the National Mall several more times.

"I can't do anything for the patients but watch them die," Suzanne Phillips, a medical student from Brooklyn, told The Washington Post in 1987 as she watched the quilt being unfurled. "I can't stand it anymore."

The Supreme Court

Rainbow flags snapped against a blue June sky and couples cheered, hugged and cried when same-sex marriage became legal across the country in 2015 because of a case called *Obergefell v. Hodges*.

More than five decades earlier, the high court ruled on a lesser-known case in 1958 that laid the foundation for that milestone.

"I would argue it's the most important civil rights case you've never heard of — period," author Jonathan Rauch said at a Cato Institute symposium on the importance of *One, Inc. v. Olesen* to American liberty and freedom.

It began when subscribers of ONE, a modest magazine of poetry and earnest ruminations about homosexual life, didn't get their October issue.

Los Angeles Postmaster Otto K. Olesen sent the California magazine a letter explaining that the U.S. Postal Department in Washington was holding it up "pending final determination of [the] U.S. solicitor general as to its mailability," according to "Courting Justice: Gay Men and Lesbians V. The Supreme Court" by Joyce Murdoch and Deb Price.

ONE had no photos, just bold graphics and cover stories that examined religion, Walt Whitman and why ". . . are 'normals' abnormally interested in sex?"

The postmaster shut down distribution. He cited the 1873 Comstock Act, which prohibited sending "obscene, lewd, and/or lascivious" material through the mail.

The magazine's editors asked the American Civil Liberties Union to take the case, but it refused. A straight young man newly graduated from law school, Eric Julber, took it to the Supreme Court.

Julber pointed to recent opinions supporting literature on nudity and polygamy, persuading the court to treat homosexuality equally. There were no oral arguments; the decision was a single sentence granting the request to reverse an earlier decision.

Free speech advocates hail it as a monumental victory against censorship. But for LGBTQ Americans, the win helped pivot the conversation about gay sexuality away from vulgarity and obscenity.

The Supreme Court went on to hear — and in many cases reject — scores of arguments after 1958 challenging the denials of the liberty to love freely and live safely for LGBTQ Americans, including one in 1971 advocating same-sex marriage. Most failed.

In 1976, two gay men unsuccessfully challenged Virginia's sodomy law, but the court upheld it. Sodomy laws were ultimately struck down in 2003.

But the fight for equal rights for LGBTQ people continues. Last month, the Supreme Court upheld the Defense Department ban on transgender people in the military, and it is expected to decide on *U.S. v. Skrmetti*, which addresses gender-affirming care for minors.

Black Democrats lament 2024 while regrouping for 2028

BY SABRINA RODRIGUEZ

SAM WOLFE/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Pleshette Grant cries as she listens to Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz speak during the South Carolina Democratic Party State Convention in Columbia, South Carolina, on Saturday.

COLUMBIA, S.C. — A mostly Black crowd of hundreds of Democrats erupted in cheers when former national party chairman Jaime Harrison urged them to "go on offense" and energize their communities to propel a "blue Democratic wave" in next year's midterms.

But offstage Saturday, Harrison was still wrestling with the problems of the last election.

"I feel like, as chair, my voice was not always heard, that I was taken for granted. I was seen as somebody to just rubber-stamp and not to actually have a seat at the table to influence certain things," Harrison said in an interview with The Washington Post on the sidelines of the South Carolina Democratic Party's annual convention. "And that has to change."

Black Democratic leaders and activists are filled with apprehension as they try to regroup more than six months after a dispiriting defeat that ignited lingering frustrations, recriminations and disagreements about what went wrong and what the party should do differently as it eyes elections in 2026 and 2028. They are eager for the party to rally around a hopeful message and a clearer plan for combating President Donald Trump and Republicans. But they don't yet see a clear standard-bearer to help them turn the tide.

"Trump took all our steam out of us and we're still searching for a leader right now," said Daryl Scott, a retired Army veteran from Myrtle Beach who attended the state Democratic convention. "There's none. Name one. Where are they? They feel embarrassed because they didn't deliver."

Tensions came into sharp focus this past weekend in South Carolina, a longtime early nominating state and major power center for some of the party's most influential Black leaders.

In interviews with more than two dozen Black elected officials, strategists, candidates and activists, many said they felt national Democratic leaders took Black voters for granted in 2024. Some said they felt betrayed by parts of the Democratic base, such as Latino voters, who didn't show up as forcefully for Kamala Harris as they had hoped. Others expressed disappointment in former president Joe Biden's decision to run for a second term and strategic decisions Harris's campaign made after she replaced him on the ticket.

Harrison expressed anger about the result of the election, troubled by indicators that some Black voters stayed home or supported Trump. He supported Biden vocally, including when others called on him to step aside sooner amid concerns about his age and acuity, and rallied behind Harris when she became the party's nominee. But he suggested some of their advisers ignored his ideas about how to sell voters on Democratic policy wins.

"We can't just be nice ornaments," said Harrison, who opted to not seek reelection as head of the Democratic National Committee when his term ended earlier this year. "We actually have to have a substantive and real role in terms of directing this party and moving this party forward."

While other corners of the party are engaged in similar bouts of blame and self-doubt, the discussions among Black Democrats are especially pertinent. They have played a major role in determining the Democratic presidential nominee for decades, and Black voters have been the most loyal members of the party's coalition — supporting the nominee in general elections more than any other racial or ethnic group.

Although few blamed Biden directly for the party's malaise, some Black Democrats said he shouldn't have run for a second term and should have made good on his pledge to build a "bridge" to the next generation of leaders. Others, like Harrison, the first Black chair of the South Carolina Democratic Party, and Rep. James E. Clyburn, a beloved elder among Black Democrats, defended Biden throughout the weekend of events.

The release of recent books has reignited a debate about whether Biden's inner circle hid information about his health from the public. Speaking with reporters at his annual "world-famous fish fry," Clyburn sought to shut down a question about Biden's health and the election.

"Who's talking about that? Well, this is the first time I've heard that in the last three weeks. I've been all over the state at town halls," he said.

Catherine Fleming Bruce, a Democratic activist running for the U.S. Senate seat held by Sen. Lindsey Graham (R), said she wished there had been an open primary because Democrats should be "making sure that we have Democratic processes at all times" — and Biden dropping out so late meant there wasn't enough time for Harris to win over skeptics.

Harris, the first Black woman to accept a major party's nomination for president, after Biden ended his campaign in July, overwhelmingly won over Black voters. But by some measures, including the reputable AP VoteCast voter surveys, she won a smaller share of them than Biden did in 2020. A recent analysis from Democratic data firm Catalist found that Black men shifted toward Republicans, with Harris performing seven percentage points worse among them than Biden did in 2020.

Sitting Saturday at the back of the building in the South Carolina State Fairgrounds listening to statewide candidates at the convention, Scott said the priority for Democrats is to win elections in Virginia and New Jersey this November and then in the 2026 midterms. But the party badly needs a national leader who "can deliver for all of us," he added.

Black Democrats survey a wide-open 2028 field

With the 2028 field wide open, a pair of potential presidential candidates visited the state, swinging by the state party's Blue Palmetto Dinner fundraiser and the fish fry hosted by Clyburn on Friday night. The visits from Maryland Gov. Wes Moore and Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz were early opportunities to connect with South Carolina's Black voters, who make up roughly half the state's Democratic electorate and helped power Biden's rise in 2020.

Moore, the nation's only current Black governor, urged Democrats to become "the party of 'yes' and 'now'" during a hopeful speech at the dinner fundraiser. He encouraged them to move quickly to deliver policy wins as he accused the Trump administration of "actively divesting from our Black communities, dismantling our minority business programs, and banning books about our history."

"In 10 years, our success will be measured not by how much we resisted, or how loud we yelled. Our success will be measured in the results we deliver to make life better for people," Moore said in his speech. Afterward, some attendees spoke positively about his pitch.

In an interview with The Post, Moore said he didn't think Trump made gains with Black voters "because he figured something out that Democrats didn't. I think he gained a vote share because he just exposed the fact that Democrats weren't figuring it out."

"It's not like he offered anything new or interesting or innovative. He just simply said, 'What are they doing? How are they benefiting your life?'" Moore said. "Trump was a fantastic vessel for the frustration."

Beyond concerns from some about Biden's age and acuity, Black voters, like other demographic groups, were vocal about their economic frustrations — even as Biden made significant gains in reducing unemployment, boosting funding for Black-owned businesses and creating jobs for Black Americans during his presidency.

Biden spokesperson Kelly Scully said that Biden and Harris made "important progress" for Black Americans, touting some of his economic achievements and others, including capping the cost of insulin for seniors and canceling billions of dollars in student loan debt. "President Biden believes that while progress was made, the work to make the promise of America real for Black communities must continue," Scully said.

A spokesperson for Harris did not respond to a request for comment.

Trump used targeted advertising, occasional outreach events and support from some high-profile Black celebrities as he vowed to deliver a strong economy with more opportunities for Black Americans. He promoted his mug shot and said Black voters liked him more because of it and his criminal indictments. Trump has spoken for years with inflammatory and sometimes racist remarks about Black Americans that have drawn widespread condemnation.

Biden and his campaign argued that the prospect of Trump returning to the White House meant risking "all progress, all freedom, all opportunities." But polls showed Black Americans' support for Biden was down, particularly among young voters, even before he ended his campaign last summer after a disastrous debate where he repeatedly appeared to lose his train of thought.

When Harris replaced Biden on the ticket, she initially generated excitement, but later struggled to address concerns that Democrats failed to deliver on promises, such as overhauling the criminal justice system. Black Democrats beyond South Carolina, including younger, more liberal members of the party, have in recent years been frustrated by its stalled agenda.

Concerns about slippage in support prompted former president Barack Obama weeks before the election to issue an impassioned plea to Black men to support Harris. He admonished them for thinking about sitting out the presidential contest and suggested sexism might factor in.

Moore suggested Democrats' missteps with Black voters predated Trump and 2024, arguing that candidates often waited until election years to aggressively reach out to the Black community.

"It's tiring," Moore said.

Walz, who was Harris's running mate, delivered a keynote speech at the convention, where he encouraged Democrats to match Trump's tough tactics and worry less about offending people. He also challenged conservative criticism that Democrats have focused too much on diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives, saying, "We focus on it because it's foundational to everything we do."

Walz drew loud cheers and a line of supporters who flocked to the side exit to take selfies and chat with him. Several praised him for speaking candidly in a speech peppered with expletives.

'We're just not coming together like we should'

Christale Spain, the chair of the South Carolina Democratic Party, reflected on the last election as she looked to the next one, saying she doesn't like the word postmortem "because we're not dead."

Spain said the Harris campaign did not make Black voters a big enough priority as it courted centrists and moderate Republicans.

"We can't lose our most dependable base because we're chasing rainbows," she said. "You've gotta know where your bread is buttered. Invest there."

Many Black Democrats who aired frustrations were also quick to praise Biden and Harris for their service. Some spoke fondly about the former president's decades-long commitment to their community and expressed well wishes for Biden as he undergoes cancer treatment. Several shied from blaming Biden or Harris for the election outcome.

While Harrison criticized some in Biden's inner circle for not listening to him, he emphasized that he felt Biden himself understood the importance of having Black leaders empowered and making decisions about the party's direction and policy.

In 2020, Biden said he saw himself as a "bridge" to the next generation of Democratic leaders, which some in the party interpreted as a pledge that he would step down after one term.

"At that point, way back then, that would have given the people a full amount [of time to run], and that didn't happen," said Bruce, the Senate candidate.

Some convention attendees over the weekend said they longed for the early days of the Obama presidency when they felt more unity within the party, and before Trump, his inflammatory rhetoric and chaotic agenda had become a fixture of American politics. But they acknowledged those days were gone, and focusing on the strategies of the past probably wouldn't serve them now.

Renee Boles, 62, a volunteer with the Council of Black Democrats at the convention, said she was pleased to see so many Black Democrats gathering to talk about the party's future. But she doesn't see Democrats doing that on a national scale, she said, and she struggled to name someone she would like to see run for president.

"I actually think the Democratic Party could be better at trying to get people together. We're just not coming together like we should," she said. "That's the sad part."

Erin Cox contributed to this report.

Trump push for 'gold-standard science' goes over like lead balloon for some

BY CAROLYN Y. JOHNSON

ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

Protesters at the Stand Up for Science 2025 rally at the Lincoln Memorial on March 7. The group that organized the demonstration called on policymakers to uphold the integrity of science.

A new term keeps popping up in messages from Trump administration scientific agencies — a pledge to restore "gold-standard science."

Many scientists say the opposite is happening.

The administration's "MAHA Report," intended to diagnose the root cause of poor health in American children, was written by Cabinet officials and political appointees, most of whom lack scientific and medical expertise. It included numerous errors, such as garbled references and invented studies. Thousands of grants that went through expert peer review have been terminated because they conflict with political priorities. The administration is proposing to reclassify government officials involved in grantmaking to "increase career employee accountability," which critics see as a way to inject politics into science.

And in a "Gold Standard Science" executive order last week, President Donald Trump outlined a new level of oversight over what counts as quality evidence and what does not, putting "a senior appointee designated by the agency head" in charge of overseeing "alleged violations." Michael Kratsios, director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, said in a briefing that the goal of the executive order is to "rebuild the American people's confidence in the national science enterprise … the status quo of our research enterprise has brought diminishing returns, wasted resources and public distrust."

Hundreds of scientists are now pushing back, saying that the administration could damage science even as it co-opts the language of a movement aimed at improving it. During the last Trump administration, there were efforts to limit the kind of evidence that could be used to inform environmental policy, and these researchers fear that "gold-standard science" is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

Berna Devezer, a professor of marketing at the University of Idaho who studies "metascience" — research into the scientific process itself — said the enhanced role of political appointees raises serious questions.

"One aspect of the [executive order] that seems clearly alarming from a scientific point of view is the centralization and consolidation of political control over the scientific infrastructure and practice — in other words, regulatory capture of science," she wrote in an email. "Science is essentially effective to the extent that it can remain independent, decentralized, and democratic."

A petition led by the advocacy group Stand Up for Science with more than 5,000 signatories says the executive order has "hijacked" scientific language to do the opposite of what it claims. The order, the petition argues, will "undermine scientific rigor and the transparent progress of science."

Separately, a group of prominent scientists wrote in the Guardian on Thursday, "Hidden beneath the scientific rhetoric is a plan that would destroy scientific independence in the US by giving political appointees the latitude to dismiss entire bodies of research and punish researchers who fail to fall in line with the current administration's objectives."

A White House spokesman and Health and Human Services spokesman did not respond to questions about critiques of the executive order.

The term "gold-standard" is deployed widely, in announcements about phasing out certain food dyes, announcing a shift away from mRNA vaccines to an older technology, reorganizing an office in the department of Health and Human Services and in changing the regulatory framework for approving covid shots.

On the National Cancer Institute Instagram account, a post appeared Thursday saying that a previous post that said communications would be paused had been made "by a career official in an attempt to undermine the Trump administration. … The Trump administration remains fully committed to supporting gold standard cancer research."

The posting generated several hundred comments.

"Is the gold standard science in the room with us?" one user asked.

Improving science

The executive order says "gold-standard science" is: reproducible, transparent, falsifiable, subject to unbiased peer review, clear about uncertainty, skeptical, interdisciplinary, accepting of negative results and free from conflicts of interests.

For years, scientists working in the "open science movement" to improve science have called for many of those principles to be embedded into research. Their goal is to make science more transparent and trustworthy, less biased and vulnerable to fraud.

"If I was just reading section 3 of the executive order, I'd be delighted — oh, fantastic! These are the things I talk about all the time — that it is my mission to advance, that the open science movement has been advocating for," said Brian Nosek, a psychology professor at the University of Virginia and a leader in calls for scientific reform.

But the rest of the executive order "goes off the rails," Nosek said. During the first Trump administration, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt instituted a policy that a study could not be used in rulemaking if its underlying data had not been made public. While scientists are always looking for ways to improve the evidence base, Nosek argued then that policy should be based on the best available evidence and not a checklist such that if it lacks one quality it is simply discounted.

"If you're not using scientific evidence, ideology is what is left," he said.

The executive order provides examples of violations of gold-standard science practices, including federal guidance on reopening schools during the pandemic, environmental policy and climate change.

Science is often seen by the public as a list of immutable facts in a book. But scientists acknowledge that it is a human enterprise, a process that is continuously being improved. There are egos, failures, fraud, honest mistakes, fads and vogues — as well as the diligent and largely unglamorous work of trying to discover something new. Science can and should be better, say critics of science — who do not see the administration working toward that goal in good faith.

"I'm walking this thin line, of saying there is fraud in science — we need to do better, we have to have consequences," Elisabeth Bik, a science integrity consultant and a leader in identifying problematic scientific papers where images have been distorted.

"On the other hand, it doesn't mean all science is fraudulent," Bik said. "It's this extrapolation of things that are wrong in science, to say everything is wrong in science. That is not the case."

Joel Achenbach, Lena H. Sun and Rachel Roubein contributed to this report.

THE WORLD

Moscow, Kyiv agree on prisoner exchange but little else

Second round of direct talks was even shorter than the first and didn't address any substantive issues to ending the three-year war in Ukraine

BY BERIL ESKI, MARY ILYUSHINA AND SERHIY MORGUNOV

ISTANBUL — Russia and Ukraine met for a brief second round of direct talks in Istanbul on Monday, agreeing to swap dead and captured soldiers, but otherwise there was no significant progress toward ending the grueling war or even agreeing to a ceasefire.

Defense Minister Rustem Umerov, who led the Ukrainian delegation, said Russia did not agree to an unconditional ceasefire — Ukraine's central demand for advancing a peace deal — or a bilateral meeting between the two countries' leaders. Still, both sides agreed to exchange gravely wounded prisoners of war, captives under the age of 25 and the bodies of 6,000 killed soldiers from each side.

He added that Ukraine proposed holding another round of talks at the end of June. The Ukrainian presidential office said Monday evening that "a certain format" on a presidential level is being discussed, including a four-party meeting between leaders of Ukraine, Russia, Turkey and the United States.

"This is crucial for making progress in the negotiation process. We've been telling Russia for a very long time this war must end, and the whole world supports us in that," Umerov said. "If Russia is serious about ending the war, it will move forward on this. If not, international sanctions must follow."

After the first round of talks in mid-May, the two sides agreed to exchange memorandums outlining their respective conditions for ending the war. Ukraine submitted its proposal in advance of the Istanbul meeting, while Russia presented its version during the talks.

Umerov also called for the return of Ukrainian children taken by Russian forces from occupied territories in the country's east.

"We have provided the other side with a list of several hundred Ukrainian children who were deported to Russia," he said. "If Russia is genuinely committed to the peace process, then the return of at least half of the children from this list would be a positive indication."

That point appears to have added tension to the talks, as the head of the Russian delegation, former culture minister Vladimir Medinsky, accused Ukraine of "putting on a show aimed at compassionate Europeans" in post-meeting remarks.

"If you want someone to shed a tear, show a child, or better, a child with a kitten," Medinsky said. "In fact, we are talking about dozens of children. These are children who have not been kidnapped by anyone. There is not a single kidnapped child. There are children who were saved by our soldiers at the cost of their lives, and we are looking for their parents."

The Kremlin has repeatedly denied that Russia forcibly removed children from occupied Ukrainian territories. In 2023, the International Criminal Court issued warrants for Russian President Vladimir Putin and children's ombudsman Maria Lvova-Belova over the alleged war crimes of "unlawful deportation" and "unlawful transfer" of children from Ukraine.

Medinsky confirmed that agreements on prisoner and body swaps had been reached and added that Russia had proposed a short-term ceasefire — lasting two to three days — along parts of the front line to allow for the recovery of bodies.

"It's hot now, and unsanitary conditions are emerging," he said. Medinsky said Russia was overall "satisfied" with the second round of talks.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky dismissed the proposal as "idiotic," saying Medinsky appeared unaware that localized exchanges of killed soldiers are a routine practice, during which "everyone understands that no one is shooting at each other."

"Ceasefire should be to prevent bodies from appearing in the first place. For them, it's just a short pause in the war," Zelensky said after a summit of the Bucharest Nine and Nordic countries in Vilnius, Lithuania. "This whole 'two or three days' game — it's just rhetoric."

Monday's meeting, held in Istanbul's lavish Ciragan Palace, kicked off with remarks from Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan, who thanked the U.S. for facilitating the direct contact between Russia and Ukraine. Washington, however, did not appear to have sent a representative to Istanbul.

"America's support and faith in these talks are very important," Fidan said, adding that President Donald Trump's "determination to establish peace has opened up a new window of opportunity."

The talks took place a day after Ukraine launched an unprecedented drone attack targeting Russian military bases. The operation, code-named "Spiderweb," targeted five strategic airfields in remote parts of the country, including Siberia. According to the Ukrainian intelligence service, the drones had been covertly smuggled into Russia over several months before being deployed.

Russian officials condemned the attack as a "terrorist act," and several prominent pro-Kremlin commentators accused Ukraine of trying to disrupt the talks, calling for harsh retaliation.

"The fact that the meeting took place despite yesterday's incident is an important success in itself," said Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Ahead of Monday's talks in Istanbul, Ukrainian officials met with advisers from European allies Germany, Italy and Britain.

Even while the U.S. commitment to Ukraine's defense appears to be wavering, Europe has been increasingly vocal in its backing of Kyiv and about the dangers of Russia. British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said Monday that the threat of Russia cannot be ignored as he unveiled long-awaited defense spending plans.

Britain is "very alert to the continued threat from Russia, whether that's continuing in Ukraine or the wider threat," he said from Scotland.

Zelensky said in Vilnius that "if Russia turns the meeting in Istanbul into empty talk, there must be a new level of pressure," in an apparent hope of reviving the effort by European countries to introduce a new package of harsh sanctions against Russia that was hindered by Trump's reluctance to impose new restrictions on Moscow.

"New sanctions — and not just from Europe. We need to work on joint sanctions at the [Group of Seven] level, including the United States and everyone in the world who wants peace," Zelensky said. "It's very important that each of our partners supports exactly this approach."

The Trump administration, which urged that direct talks take place, has grown increasingly frustrated at the lack of progress in the negotiations.

The U.S. has proposed a 30-day unconditional ceasefire, something Ukraine agreed to but Russia did not, with Putin saying that many parameters need to be worked out before any cessation of hostilities and instead proposing direct negotiations. In the days since the first round of talks in Istanbul, the two sides have exchanged intense waves of drone attacks. Russia also launched ballistic missiles that hit Ukrainian cities.

Vice President JD Vance and Secretary of State Marco Rubio have repeatedly said the U.S. would pull out of the process if talks continue to stall.

Meanwhile, Kyiv is bracing for another Russian offensive in the summer, aimed at seizing Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region, a key target Moscow has sought to capture since the war's outset, according to Ukrainian military officials and analysts.

Ilyushina reported from Berlin and Morgunov from Kyiv. Karla Adam in London contributed to this report.

TOLGA BOZOGLU/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

Ukrainian Defense Minister Rustem Umerov, center, and his delegation leave the Ciragan Palace in Istanbul after peace talks Monday between Russia and Ukraine.

YASIN AKGUL/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Vladimir Medinsky, center, head of the Russian delegation and a Kremlin aide, speaks to the media after the second round of Moscow-Kyiv peace talks in Istanbul on Monday.

"Ceasefire should be to prevent bodies from appearing in the first place. For them, it's just a short pause in the war."

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky

DIGEST

AUSTRALIA

Mushroom murder defendant takes stand

The woman accused of murdering three members of her ex-husband's family by serving them poisonous mushrooms took the stand in an Australian court Monday as the highly publicized triple murder trial neared its conclusion.

Erin Patterson, 50, was accused of killing her former parents-in-law, Don and Gail Patterson, both 70, and Gail Patterson's sister, Heather Wilkinson, 66, and also of attempting to murder Wilkinson's husband, Ian, 68, after the four consumed a meal at Patterson's home in Victoria state in July 2023.

She could face up to 25 years in prison for the attempted-murder charge, while murder in the state of Victoria carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment. Her lawyer, Colin Mandy, previously told the Victorian state Supreme Court during the six-week trial that the poisoning was accidental.

Patterson's appearance as a defense witness Monday marked the first time she has spoken since pleading not guilty to all charges in May 2024.

— Associated Press

CAMBODIA

U.N. ruling sought on disputes with Thailand

Cambodia said it plans to seek a ruling from the United Nations' International Court of Justice over border disputes with Thailand, one of which triggered a fatal military clash last week. Cambodia's National Assembly, where Prime Minister Hun Manet's ruling Cambodian People's Party holds all but a handful of seats, voted Monday to support the government's decision. In 1962, the ICJ awarded to Cambodia the disputed territory where a historic temple is located, rankling Thailand; to this day it remains a major irritant in bilateral relations. The ICJ reaffirmed its ruling in 2013.

Speaking Monday at a meeting of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Thai Foreign Minister Maris Sangiampongsa said that Cambodia has the right to file a case with the court but that it would not affect talks between the two countries under existing mechanisms. He said Thai officials will meet later this week to issue a clear stance on the matter. Thailand's deputy prime minister, Phumtham Wechayachai, said in a post on Facebook that both countries are working to resolve the crisis by avoiding further confrontations and violence.

— Associated Press

SWEDEN

Panel: International adoptions should stop

A Swedish commission recommended Monday that international adoptions be stopped after an investigation found abuses and fraud dating back decades.

Sweden is the latest country to examine its international adoption policies after allegations of unethical practices, particularly in South Korea. The commission was formed in 2021 following a report by Swedish newspaper Dagens Nyheter detailing Sweden's problematic international adoption system. Monday's recommendations were sent to Minister of Social Services Camilla Waltersson Gronvall, who said her department would review the report.

The commission called on the government to formally apologize to adoptees and their families. Investigators found confirmed cases of child trafficking in every decade from the 1970s to the 2000s.

— Associated Press

British police said Monday that a fourth man had been arrested in connection to multiple fires at properties and a car linked to Prime Minister Keir Starmer. The 48-year-old man, who wasn't identified, was arrested at Stansted Airport near London on Monday on suspicion of conspiracy to commit arson with intent to endanger life. No one was injured in the fires, which occurred between May 8 and May 12 at a house owned by Starmer, a building where he once lived and a car that he had owned.

The German cabinet wants to approve a first tax relief package to support companies Wednesday, a spokesperson from the Finance Ministry said Monday. The aim is to boost investment with favorable depreciation options for companies, including "super depreciations" of 30 percent per year for three years, a move that typically delays taxes due on business profits. Germany's anemic economy could be facing a third consecutive year of contraction for the first time in postwar history, and reviving the economy is one of the main tasks of the new government.

— From news services

Trump administration claims Chinese students 'exploit' U.S. universities

BY CATE CADELL AND SAMMY WESTFALL

KEVIN LAMARQUE/REUTERS

Visitors from China take photos in front of cherry blossoms at D.C.'s Tidal Basin in 2022.

A State Department pledge to revoke a record number of Chinese student visas has jolted U.S. higher education, reigniting debate over whether the country can remain a top international academic destination as the Trump administration's hardening national security stance — and "America First" doctrine — grow increasingly at odds with the 277,000 Chinese students on U.S. campuses.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio last week issued a brief statement saying that the United States will "aggressively revoke visas for Chinese students, including those with connections to the Chinese Communist Party or studying in critical fields."

It will also "revise visa criteria to enhance scrutiny of all future visa applications" for people from China and Hong Kong. The State Department will work with the Department of Homeland Security to see the action through, Rubio said.

In recent decades, Beijing has pushed to recruit highly talented students back to China, aiming to harness foreign expertise for its own development — including in defense, cyber and artificial intelligence fields.

But the broad scope of that effort risks casting suspicion on a much wider pool of students who are vital to research and funding at many top American institutions.

State Department spokeswoman Tammy Bruce last week said the United States "will not tolerate the [Chinese Communist Party's] exploitation of U.S. universities or theft of U.S. research intellectual property or technologies to grow its military power, conduct intelligence collection or repress voices of opposition."

Asked how exactly the revocations might work in practice, she said, "We don't give details about what our methods are regarding visas."

The move comes as a fragile truce between Washington and Beijing shows signs of unraveling. On Friday, President Donald Trump accused China of having "totally violated" a 90-day agreement reached in May that temporarily reduced U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods from a peak of 145 percent to 30 percent.

The visa policy also comes as the State Department steps up enforcement against protesters on college campuses, with Rubio saying some 300 visas, including some student and visitor visas, have been revoked.

The administration has targeted Harvard University in particular, with Homeland Security Secretary Kristi L. Noem on May 22 ordering her department to cut off the university's ability to admit international students. Noem blamed Harvard for allegedly allowing "anti-American, pro-terrorist" foreigners and working with the Chinese Communist Party by hosting and training members of its paramilitary group.

Harvard has responded by mounting a legal challenge to the ban on international students, prompting a Massachusetts judge to temporarily block the Trump administration's move. International students make up more than a quarter of Harvard's student body, and the largest share of them are Chinese.

Unlike some high-profile cases where students have been detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents and ushered into deportation proceedings, visa revocations do not necessarily trigger immediate removal, but they bar individuals from returning to the United States if they leave.

Beijing's embassy in Washington condemned the State Department's move as "politically motivated and discriminatory." Chinese social media has erupted with anxious debate over whether students should continue applying to U.S. universities, as visa uncertainty deepens.

"I think now there's a real question about whether the U.S. border policies are stable enough," said Erin, a 20-year-old from Shanghai who was planning to matriculate at Harvard this fall. She declined to give her full name, citing her ongoing visa process.

In a group chat of incoming Harvard students, she said, many are panicked and hoping the issue resolves before the semester begins. A few have already dropped out, exploring options in Britain instead. "The problem now is no one knows what will happen."

While the State Department and Rubio have framed the visa revocations as a national security measure, senior Trump allies — including Vice President JD Vance — have also cited a desire to curb competition for American students.

Analysts say the widening rift with Beijing over technology and trade is probably a driving force for the student visa revocations. "I'd read it as symptomatic of a larger toxic relationship," said Jake Werner, China program director at the Quincy Institute, a Washington-based think tank. "Every major country spies … but that doesn't mean every Chinese person is a spy."

Over the past two decades, China has ramped up efforts to lure home students and scholars educated abroad. Known as haigui, or "sea turtles," these returnees are prized as vital assets in Beijing's push for industrial and technological dominance.

Beijing and provincial governments have poured billions of dollars into luring overseas Chinese talent home — building databases of high-value Chinese talents abroad and staging targeted recruitment drives with housing and pay incentives.

Perhaps the most controversial of these initiatives is the Thousand Talents Plan (TTP), launched in 2008 to financially incentivize top scientific, academic and entrepreneurial talent across primarily overseas Chinese. While not officially a national security program, it has become a lightning rod for U.S. lawmakers, who argue it has enabled Beijing to siphon off U.S.-funded research.

Receiving money from the TTP isn't inherently illegal, but prosecutors have charged recipients with fraud and tax crimes for violating grant rules and failing to disclose their ties to Chinese programs while also receiving U.S. research funding.

In 2020, Ohio State University rheumatologist Song Guo Zheng pleaded guilty to making false statements on National Institutes of Health grant applications by failing to disclose his affiliation with the Thousand Talents Plan. He was sentenced to 37 months in prison. Separately, Emory University neuroscience professor Xiao-Jiang Li was convicted of filing a false tax return after failing to report his involvement with the program.

Part of the challenge in ramping up U.S. vetting is the strain it places on resources. In 2020, during his first term, Trump introduced rules barring Chinese students who had studied at or received funding from universities tied to Beijing's effort to integrate private-sector innovation with military development.

Screening hundreds of thousands of Chinese students presents steep challenges, and binary judgments based on university or party affiliations often do not capture the nuance of individual backgrounds.

The murky ties between universities and the state, along with the vague, often expansive definition of civil-military affiliations, make it difficult to assess individual risk. Political status is equally hard to parse: Some 100 million people belong to the Communist Party, often as a practical route to career advancement rather than a sign of ideological commitment. Hundreds of millions more have familial or professional links to the party.

As a result, the rules are applied opaquely and — in some instances — indiscriminately. Some students, including long-term U.S. residents, have been denied reentry without explanation, and many say they have no connection to the Chinese military or affiliated institutions.

"From my sense, the [new] administration is taking a much more expansive definition," said Tai Ming Cheung, director of the University of California Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, adding that he's yet to see a precise definition of how the administration intends to identify students in "critical fields" or with "connections to the Chinese Communist Party."

Kitsch Liao, associate director of the Atlantic Council's Global China Hub, noted both the broad threat of Chinese students researching sensitive areas such as aerospace, and the narrower but more pointed concern of spying.

"China like many other countries does engage students to assist in stealing IPs, and other espionage and influence operations," he said.

"The issue is whether this is the right way to tackle this problem," Liao said, referring to the Trump administration's expansive visa restrictions. "There are a lot of downsides if this approach is done incorrectly."

He cited the so-called father of China's ballistic missile program, Qian Xuesen. Born in China, he went on study at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was on the founding team of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The Eisenhower administration deported him back to China in 1955 amid Cold War Red Scare fears.

"So he went back and helped them build their missile program," Liao said. "You don't want that to happen."

Ukraine's attack seen as setback for Russia

UKRAINE FROM A1

IGOR KOBZEV, GOVERNOR OF IRKUTSK REGION, TELEGRAM CHANNEL/AP

A truck that was apparently used to release Ukrainian drones within Russia, more than 2,500 miles from Ukraine.

were nuclear-capable, included A-50, Tu-95, Tu-22 M3 and Tu-160 models — planes Kyiv said Russia had used nearly every night to bomb Ukraine.

Many details of how the attack was planned are not public, and it was not immediately clear how many of the Russian planes were operational at the time they were targeted.

But the swift, angry reactions in Russia confirmed that Ukraine had exploited — to devastating effect — an obvious vulnerability: essential and expensive aircraft left out in the open but believed safe because they were deep inside the country. The operation also marked the latest example of drone technology redefining modern warfare.

Western analysts said the strikes will hinder Russia's ability to launch cruise missiles into Ukraine and could force Russian commanders to shift significant resources to better protect aviation assets. But the analysts cautioned that the strikes are unlikely to significantly alter the course of the war, as Moscow still has enough aircraft to continue bombing Ukrainian cities and infrastructure.

Video footage and reactions published on social media showed that in Russia, the drone strikes stirred panic, confusion and then, from pro-war commentators, rage. Governors from several regions, including as far as Siberia, reported drone attacks. Russian onlookers filmed smoke billowing over the airfields and narrated their shock. Soon, pro-war military bloggers had dubbed the attack "Russia's Pearl Harbor."

In videos that could not be independently verified by The Washington Post, people who appear to be locals living around the air bases recorded drones zooming past them and plumes of black smoke on the horizon. In one video, a woman watches a drone move toward a smoldering air base as her neighbors suggest that it might be the 11th to fly by. In another video, a man films as several drones fly out of the back of a truck stationed on the side of a highway. Gunfire can be heard in the background as security forces try to shoot the drones down.

In another, a young soldier, apparently stationed at another air base, records several aircraft burning. Facing the camera, he uses an expletive to describe the scene. Enraged chief Russian propagandist Vladimir Solovyov later demanded that the soldier be shot for making the video and called him a "scumbag."

Meanwhile, in Kyiv, the SBU, the Ukrainian security agency that had planned the brazen strikes, publicly took credit and revealed the operation's code name as Spiderweb. President Volodymyr Zelensky quickly posted photos of himself hugging the agency head, Lt. Gen. Vasyl Maliuk, in celebration.

"The enemy thought that it could bomb Ukraine and kill Ukrainians with impunity and endlessly," Maliuk said in a statement Monday. "But this is not so. We will respond to Russian terror and destroy the enemy everywhere."

Ukraine said that all SBU operatives involved in the attack were evacuated safely from Russia before it began.

In Ukraine, the successful attack injected some much-needed optimism into a society beleaguered by more than three years of full-scale war and worn down by what many see as undue U.S. pressure to concede to Russian demands even without security guarantees.

"This operation completely changes the perception of reality — both within Russia and around the world. Our enemies are now forced to recognize that Ukrainian intelligence services are capable of penetrating even the most secure facilities," said Ukrainian lawmaker Roman Kostenko, who serves as the secretary of parliament's national security committee. "When the enemy loses dozens of strategic bombers, it's not just a technical loss; it's a blow to its ability to blackmail the world with missile strikes."

Former Ukrainian defense minister Oleksii Reznikov said Ukraine had transferred its Tu bombers to Moscow as part of its 1996 agreement to give up its nuclear capabilities in exchange for security guarantees from several countries, including Russia.

"On June 1, 2025, Ukraine began removing those very aircraft from one of the memorandum's main guarantors. That guarantor had shamelessly used them against peaceful Ukrainians," he said, describing Sunday's attack as "a peculiar form of military-legal sanctions."

One former Ukrainian official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss a sensitive political moment, described the attack as providing an "immense inspirational push for Ukrainian society and soldiers" that he fears may inspire more resistance to a compromise that could lead to a real ceasefire.

"We're less likely to compromise in the nearest future. And some form of a compromise seems to be the only way to stop [or] pause the war," he said. Still, he added, the attack dramatically improved the SBU's reputation and "deserves to be described in history books."

The vulnerability of aircraft has long been a point of criticism among Russian military bloggers, who have called for better defenses, such as hardened cover and hangars, said Samuel Bendett, a drone expert and adviser to the Russia studies program at the Center for Naval Analyses, a research and analysis nonprofit in Washington.

Air defenses on the bases were probably honed to detect bigger Ukrainian drones that operate at long ranges and were "probably not looking for FPV drones that literally snuck under the radar," Bendett said. FPV drones are small aircraft guided by a pilot using a camera with a first-person view. A big question is how Russia rebuilds the bruised component of its nuclear arsenal, Bendett said.

Among the destroyed or damaged planes are aircraft that have been modernized but are no longer in production. It would not make sense to rebuild propeller-driven Tu-95s, Bendett said, though Russia has yet to acquire the next-generation bombers expected to replace them.

Another question is how Ukraine ultimately steered the drones. The sophistication of launching the drones one after another points to capabilities such as drones preprogrammed to fly toward their targets, analysts said.

Pilots may have been involved in the last stretch of the attack runs, Bendett said. In one video, a drone slows down and hovers above the wings of a bomber, then targets a vulnerable portion of the wing between the fuselage and the engine, he said. Such a precise attack is a hallmark of FPV drones, which carry relatively small payloads but pack a big punch by specifically targeting vehicle weak points.

Russian officials and state media, meanwhile, remained noticeably silent on Sunday's attacks.

According to Russian outlet Agentsvo, Russian state broadcasters Channel One and Rossiya-1 each devoted 40 seconds of airtime to this unprecedented attack on Russian air bases. By Monday morning, the news had disappeared from news bulletins.

"The smartest thing Putin could do right now would be to not respond immediately," wrote Vladimir Pastukhov, a Russian political scientist based in London. "Putin's best response is to delay his response — which he is good at."

"Putin does not have many spectacular 'good' moves in the current situation," he continued. "Ukraine has no comparable facilities that can be destroyed without infernal civilian casualties and enormous damage to the environment … which would traumatize the already troubled Trump."

Pro-Kremlin military blogger Mikhail Zvinchuk, who runs the Rybar Telegram channel, said that the attack would cause substantial "moral and psychological damage" and that Ukraine's operation was aimed not only at exploiting gaps in defense but also at "creating colossal tension" in society and discrediting the security services.

If Ukraine can attack air bases, he speculated, it could also attack highways and transport routes, stirring panic.

"Of course, from the point of view of undermining Russia's military potential, this is an extremely unpleasant story, especially in the context of the loss of the Tu-95MS," Zvinchuk said, referring to the mainstay of Russia's fleet of nuclear bombers.

Russian opposition figures, meanwhile, marveled online at Ukraine's "amazing" and "crazy" operation.

"Everyone says that the only way to negotiate with Putin is to negotiate from a position of strength. Well here it is," wrote Russian opposition politician and former political prisoner Ilya Yashin on social media.

Yan Matveyev, a military analyst at the Anti-Corruption Foundation, founded by opposition figure Alexei Navalny, described the attack as "a direct and highly sensitive blow to the nuclear triad" that destroyed "rare and expensive bombers."

"Most importantly, it reduced the Russian Air Force's ability to strike Ukrainian cities," Matveyev wrote on Telegram.

Destroying or damaging an A-50 is a significant achievement for Ukraine. The aircraft, topped with a radar, is a flying command center that helps coordinate Russian air attacks and detects incoming threats. Moscow has few in its inventory. One such plane was shot down with a Ukrainian Patriot air defense system last year.

Ebel reported from London and Horton from Washington. Natalia Abbakumova in Riga, Latvia, contributed to this report.

As right wing cheers presidential win in Poland, government faces gridlock

BY AARON WIENER

Europe's right-wing politicians and their allies in the Trump administration cheered the razor-thin victory of conservative nationalist Karol Nawrocki in Poland's presidential election Sunday.

For Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk and centrist European Union leaders in Brussels, Nawrocki's 50.89 percent to 49.11 percent win over liberal Warsaw Mayor Rafal Trzaskowski showed just how difficult it can be to reverse course once a country has embraced the grip of authoritarian populists.

Since reclaiming the prime minister's post in 2023, Tusk and his Civic Platform party have sought to overturn some of the more radical measures enacted by the conservative Law and Justice party, including a strict abortion ban and a judicial overhaul, during its eight years in government.

Time and again, Tusk has run into vetoes — or veto threats — from the Law and Justice-aligned president, Andrzej Duda. Nawrocki's election now ensures two more years of gridlock for the centrist coalition — if Tusk's government can hold on that long.

"The election result shows that Poland is very polarized, very divided down the middle," said Aleks Szczerbiak, a Polish politics expert at the University of Sussex.

In Poland, the prime minister and Parliament hold most of the government's authority, while the president has a more ceremonial role. But the president can veto laws and influence foreign policy, in addition to wielding other powers.

Some Polish voters viewed the election as a referendum on the European Union. Tusk served as president of the European Council from 2014 to 2019 — the first Eastern European politician to hold such a high office in Brussels — and in that role, he clashed repeatedly with the nationalist Polish government back home.

In the presidential election, Trzaskowski, a Tusk ally, embraced European cooperation, while Nawrocki was more skeptical, adopting a "Poland first" mantra.

Right-wing politicians celebrated Nawrocki's win as a renewed challenge to Brussels.

"Karol Nawrocki's victory in the Polish presidential election is welcome news," French nationalist leader Marine Le Pen wrote on X. "It is a rebuff to the Brussels oligarchy, which intends to impose a standardization of legislation on member states, contrary to any democratic will."

MARCIN STEPIEN/AGENCJA WYBORCZA.PL/REUTERS

Electoral commission members count votes in Lodz for the second round of the Polish presidential election on Sunday.

"What a nail-biter!" Viktor Orban, Hungary's prime minister, wrote on the same platform. Orban, a self-declared champion of "illiberal Christian democracy," who has often defied Brussels while maintaining close ties with Russian President Vladimir Putin, congratulated Nawrocki on his "fantastic victory."

Orban added, "We are looking forward to working with you."

Nawrocki, 42, who has not held office previously, will be "a much more radical politician than Duda," said Piotr Buras, head of the Warsaw office of the European Council on Foreign Relations. "More anti-European, nationalist and pro-Trump."

"Trump's presidency has changed the context of European politics," Buras said, emboldening politicians to take more extreme stances than they might have done otherwise.

President Donald Trump did not explicitly endorse Nawrocki but invited him to the Oval Office last month — an unmistakable intervention in the election.

Trump's homeland security secretary, Kristi L. Noem, was more overt, imploring Poles to elect Nawrocki and telling them, "He needs to be the next president of Poland."

Republicans, including Vice President JD Vance, sharply criticized Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and accused him of election interference for appearing with President Joe Biden at an ammunition factory in Pennsylvania during the U.S. presidential race last fall.

In the Polish presidential election, the biggest issue at stake was judicial reform, Szczerbiak said.

During its years in power, Law and Justice filled the country's constitutional court with loyalists and took over the body responsible for appointing judges and safeguarding judicial independence. The eventual result was nearly 3,000 new judges sympathetic to the party. The E.U. condemned the overhaul as antidemocratic and imposed punitive measures, including the withholding of funds.

Trzaskowski emphasized the rule of law in his campaign, and Szczerbiak said his presidency would have made judicial reforms a top government priority. Instead, they are probably dead in the water.

Frustration at the Tusk government's inability to get things done hurt Trzaskowski's candidacy, said Buras. Now, he said, further deadlock could threaten the Tusk government's ability to finish out the parliamentary term. According to opinion polls, a snap election would probably result in nationalists retaking control.

"I fear gridlock and a situation in which, due to the president's obstruction, a coalition of far-right parties wins power in early elections," Aleksander, a Trzaskowski voter in Warsaw, said Monday. He spoke on the condition that he be identified by only his first name because of fear of professional retaliation. "I am also concerned about the public mood in the country," Aleksander said, "and its potential marginalization on the international stage."

But to Anna Krysztafowicz, a Warsaw resident who voted for Nawrocki, gridlock was better than the alternative. "As long as the coalition is in power, I think it will be difficult to push anything through," she said. "And if Trzaskowski had won, they definitely would have started doing some crazy things together."

Julia Alekseeva in Warsaw contributed to this report.

Election of Nawrocki reflects rising strength of MAGA-style populism in Europe

EUROPE FROM A1

entrenched Europe's divide between right-wing populists and centrists had become, reflecting political divisions in the United States. "There is a very significant overlying trend: Elections, not only in Europe but across Western democracies, are evolving into plebiscites," he said by phone Monday — effectively becoming referendums on populism.

"Voters are presented with a really stark choice: either rules-based liberal democracies or MAGA-esque ethno-nationalist types of leaders," said Armida van Rij, who leads the Europe program at Chatham House, while cautioning that the trend has been unfolding for as long as a decade.

Although analysts said there is a strong political and cultural nexus between Trump and Europe's emergent populist parties, what those ties mean in practice — and whether they are sustainable in the long term — is debatable.

"Ever since Trump's election, the European far right feels really galvanized," Van Rij said. On the ground, however, she said, the feeling of momentum has yet to translate into a sustained streak of political advances. "There's even some evidence that voters are scared of the Trump effect, and that's rallying people toward the liberal option," she added.

Francesco Nicoli, a political economist at the Bruegel think tank, also pointed to several points of possible future contention between ruling European nationalists and the Trump administration.

"It's hard for them to take a fully aligned position with an American administration, as some of these things are clearly not in a European interest," he said, pointing to Trump's recent threats to impose tariffs on Europe and push to lift security guarantees for the continent. "These are eventually things that will bite far-right governments."

Here's how far-right and populist parties have fared in recent elections in Europe.

Romania

The centrist mayor of Bucharest defeated his MAGA-embracing, Euroskeptic rival by about seven percentage points in May's presidential election. "You confronted the hate wave. This is your victory," Nicusor Dan, now president, told his supporters just after the vote.

George Simion, who lost, had previously advocated for the country's historical claims on Moldovan and Ukrainian territory and, during the campaign, pushed for ending Romania's support for Ukraine.

The election was effectively a do-over of November's contest, after the country's constitutional court annulled the poll over campaign finance violations and an illicit social media campaign that Romanian authorities said was stoked by Russia.

In February, U.S. Vice President JD Vance criticized the ruling as based on "flimsy suspicions." But a member of the U.S. Federal Election Commission, after a visit to Bucharest, told reporters there was "clear evidence that there was some sort of nefarious activity."

ALEKSANDRA SZMIGIEL/REUTERS

Conservative nationalist candidate Karol Nawrocki, who narrowly won Poland's presidential election over the weekend, reacts to exit polls in Warsaw on Sunday.

Portugal

Portugal's far-right Chega party, which translates to "Enough," won the second-most seats in parliamentary elections last month.

"In six years, they've gone from nonexistence to having a 22 percent vote share and being the main opposition party," said Van Rij, the political scientist, remarking on the speed of the far-right party's ascendance in Portugal.

The party campaigned on a promise to "save Portugal" and surged on an anti-immigrant platform.

Germany

The far-right Alternative for Germany, or AfD, came in second in February's federal elections, the best result for a German far-right party since the end of World War II. Despite doubling its 2021 vote share to over 20 percent, it lost out to the conservative Christian Democrats.

Before the vote, Vance and tech billionaire Elon Musk expressed support for the far-right party. Friedrich Merz, who now serves as chancellor, denounced the "intervention" from Washington as "no less drastic, dramatic and ultimately no less outrageous than the intervention that we have seen from Moscow."

Austria

The Freedom Party won about 29 percent of the vote in Austria's September legislative elections, marking the first time since World War II that a far-right party has won a national election in the country.

In February, Austria's three leading centrist parties reached an agreement to form a coalition to exclude the far-right party.

Founded in 1956 and initially led by a former Nazi and SS officer, the Freedom Party is pro-Russian and has sought to join the rising tide of hard-right movements across Europe by tapping into voter anger over immigration.

The centrist parties' agreement curbed the ambitions of Herbert Kickl, the party's leader, who aspired to become what he called "Volkskanzler," or "People's Chancellor" — a term that was embraced by Adolf Hitler.

France

Marine Le Pen's National Rally party fell short of the high expectations that built up ahead of July's election, coming in third behind a surging left and even President Emmanuel Macron's ailing centrist alliance.

The far right's chances shrank significantly in the week between the voting rounds, as left-wing and centrist candidates who had placed third in the first round voluntarily withdrew from more than 200 runoffs. The strategy was to prevent splitting the vote in a way that would have enabled far-right victories.

In March, a French court convicted Le Pen of embezzlement and barred her from running for political office for five years.

Rick Noack, Scott Clement, Kate Brady, William Booth, Catherine Belton, Madalin Necsutu and Aaron Wiener contributed to this report.

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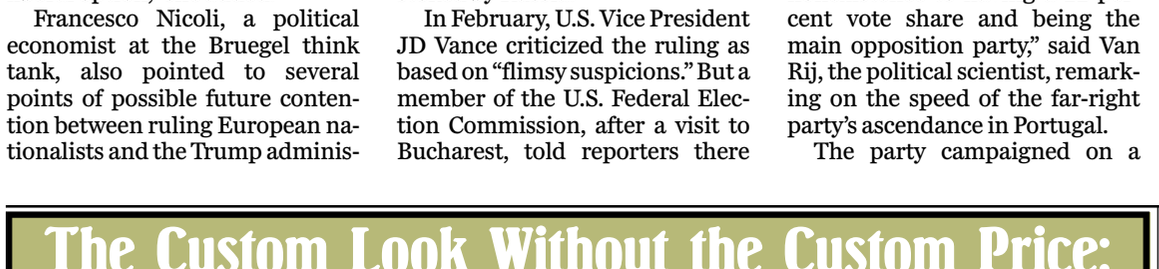

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China rejects Trump's assertion it reneged on trade

BY CHRISTIAN SHEPHERD

China on Monday said Trump administration accusations that it had broken the terms of a trade war truce by holding back key materials were "groundless," saying that it was in fact the United States that had "seriously damaged" the agreement with its restrictions on Chinese microchips and students.

After President Donald Trump on Friday twice accused China of having violated an agreement reached last month, administration officials said that Beijing was taking its time to approve export licenses for rare earths needed to make products including consumer electronics and jet engines.

It was only three weeks ago that the two countries called a 90-day timeout on a tariff war that had dramatically slashed trade between the world's two largest economies. They agreed to reduce triple-digit tariffs — effectively an embargo — to levels that would at least allow trade to continue while the two sides worked on a formal deal.

But that temporary truce is already under strain amid the accusations and disagreements about what exactly was agreed in Geneva.

By announcing export controls on artificial intelligence chips and revoking Chinese student visas, "the United States had unilaterally provoked new economic and trade tensions," China's Commerce Ministry said in a statement Monday. "Instead of reflecting on itself, it has made bogus accusations and unreasonably denounced China for violating the agreement."

SUSAN WALSH/AP

President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping during a meeting in Osaka, Japan, in 2019.

The most recent exchanges reflect how far apart the two sides remain on a host of issues, and near the top of the list is a dispute over whether Beijing is moving fast enough to ease its export restrictions on rare earths and critical minerals.

While claiming that the goal of tariffs was not to "decouple" from China but to reduce reliance on its products, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent on Sunday accused Beijing of holding back rare earths and critical minerals that it agreed to "release" in Geneva. "Maybe it's a glitch in the Chinese system, maybe it's intentional," Bessent told CBS.

China, for its part, was angered by Commerce Department guidance, released days after talks in Geneva, warning that the use or sale of Ascend AI chips made by Chinese technology giant Huawei anywhere in the world could violate U.S. export controls — a ruling Beijing said was against the spirit of the trade agreement.

"The big picture is that the two sides resumed negotiations after Geneva, but if you look at the details, it's more complicated, and each side is still doing things that could undermine that big picture," said Da Wei, an international relations scholar at Tsinghua University in Beijing.

Chinese state-affiliated commentators have increasingly linked rare earths to U.S. technology controls.

Only if the U.S. relaxes its restrictions on the export of advanced semiconductors to China should Beijing consider easing rare earths controls, said Hu Xijin, a prominent nationalist commentator and former editor in chief of the state-run Global Times.

"No matter what pressure the U.S. exerts or what tricks it plays, China should not let go of its rare earth trump card," Hu wrote on the social media app WeChat on Saturday.

Despite being found in many locations globally, these widely used metals are difficult to extract and refine. After decades of investment, China now accounts for almost the entirety of global supply, producing 92 percent of the world's processed rare earths last year.

Because these metals are crucial for the production of military drones, electric vehicles and even medicines, China's decision to respond to tariffs by cutting off U.S. access to some rare earths left senior administration officials scrambling to contain the economic fallout.

Although China pledged after the Geneva talks to "suspend or remove" nontariff countermeasures taken since Trump's "Liberation Day" tariffs were announced April 2, its officials and state media have consistently said that it cannot remove controls entirely.

That is partly because the export-control regime to limit the sale of "strategic minerals" with military applications was formally announced in December, before Trump took office, and Beijing justified it as being necessary for China's national security.

Another complication is that the Geneva agreement did not extend to five critical minerals originally made subject to export restrictions in February. They were part of China's response to Trump's initial 10 percent tariffs, imposed to urge Beijing to do more to curb the flow of fentanyl and its precursor chemicals into the U.S.

It is unlikely Beijing will be willing to let American companies skip an approval process that can take six weeks even for non-American companies, said Cory Combs, an analyst at Trivium China, a consultancy that advises international businesses on Chinese policy.

The Chinese bureaucrats in charge of approvals have plenty of incentives to take their time: Rare earths are ubiquitous in weaponry made by American defense contractors, many of which have been penalized by China over arms sales to Taiwan, the island democracy that Beijing claims as its territory.

"No official wants to be the one responsible for accidentally letting something go to an unapproved end user," Combs said.

The two sides clashed over Taiwan again over the weekend after Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth stated at a regional security forum that China posed a potentially "imminent" military threat to Taiwan. China's Defense Ministry responded Sunday that his remarks were "irresponsible" and reflected a "bullying style and Cold War mentality."

With rising tensions threatening to undermine the trade war truce, administration officials appear to be hoping that a conversation between Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping can put talks back on track.

Bessent said the two leaders planned to speak "very soon," while National Economic Council Director Kevin Hassett said a call could happen as soon as this week. The administration is "focused 100 percent like a laser beam on the China matter, to make sure that there are no supply disruptions because these licenses are coming a little slower than we would like," he told ABC.

Beijing has not commented on the possibility of a call or confirmed it is under discussion. Experts on Chinese foreign policy consider it unlikely that Xi would agree to a conversation during such a delicate moment in talks.

While the U.S. has grown impatient and pushed for a Xi-Trump call, "the Chinese tradition is that you work out 95 percent of the agreement at the working level and then the leaders will come in to seal the deal," said Wang Dong, an international relations professor at Peking University in Beijing.

Trump's New York real estate-style dealmaking, where the two big bosses sit down and hammer out an agreement, doesn't work well with China, Wang said.

Lyric Li contributed to this report.

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ECONOMY & BUSINESS

Study: Some coastal areas flood more frequently than previously thought

BY BRADY DENNIS

Fast-rising seas have forced some coastal communities to endure flooding far more frequently than previously thought, and much more often than federal tide gauges would suggest, according to a new findings from researchers in North Carolina.

"I view it as a harbinger of what's to come," said Katherine Anarde, an assistant professor of coastal engineering at North Carolina State University and one of the lead authors of the study, published Monday in the journal Communications Earth & Environment.

To document the true prevalence and duration of flooding, researchers installed sensors inside stormwater drains and cameras above them in three North Carolina communities — Beaufort, Carolina Beach and Sea Level.

What they found was startling.

During a single year, from May 2023 through April 2024, they logged 26 days of flooding in Beaufort, 65 days in Carolina Beach and 128 days in Sea Level. Many of those floods — defined as water getting on a nearby road — happened on sunny days, and very few were associated with large storm events.

The frequency of flooding was "an order of magnitude greater" than the official number of what are known as high-tide flooding days projected by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which maintains a network of tide gauges along the coastlines.

The reason tide gauges are "poor indicators of flooding," the authors write, is not any fault with the instruments, which have long measured water levels in the ocean and serve various purposes. Rather, the existing tools often underestimate the true extent of flooding on land because they "do not measure rainfall runoff, groundwater contributions to flooding, or the effects of local drainage infrastructure," the study found.

Monday's study offers insights into a reality that a growing number of coastal communities will face, or already are facing: that infrastructure built for another time and another climate is not equipped to handle the higher tides and persistent flooding fueled by rising seas.

The researchers also argue that many places would benefit from more measurement of water on land, where flooding actually occurs, rather than relying primarily on tide-gauge-based estimates that can miss the nuanced factors that influence localized flood frequency and duration.

"If you don't know where it's flooding and why it's flooding, you might create expensive designs for infrastructure that are counterproductive," Anarde said.

While the study focused on three low-lying communities in North Carolina, its authors say the findings have relevance for many places along the nation's coastlines, particularly throughout the Southeast.

Roads, sewer systems, stormwater outfalls and drainage ditches in such places were often "designed for sea levels 100 years ago or more," said Miyuki Hino, a University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill environmental social scientist and another of the lead authors.

But as seas have risen in recent decades and land in many places has subsided, or sunk, communities throughout the Gulf and Southeast Atlantic coasts have grappled with more persistent flooding. "The problems we are seeing here are extremely likely to be problems we are seeing elsewhere," Hino said.

In a series of articles last year, The Washington Post documented how the American South has experienced one of the most rapid rates of sea-level rise on Earth since 2010. At more than a dozen tide gauges spanning from Texas to North Carolina, sea levels are at least six inches higher than they were in 2010 — a change similar to what occurred over the previous five decades.

That shift has forced a reckoning in more and more places, from drowning wetlands in Louisiana to waterlogged septic systems in Florida. Some roads are increasingly falling below the highest tides, leaving drivers stranded or delayed. Insurers have raised rates or scaled back coverage in vulnerable places, creating angst about future home values in flood-prone corners of the United States.

Such problems are likely to proliferate over time, as sea levels continue to rise and coastal flooding becomes more frequent and pervasive.

"We are already seeing the start of permanent inundation," Hino said.

Already, high-tide floods have happened in the Southeast about five times as often as they did in 1990, NOAA oceanographer William Sweet told The Post last year. "We're seeing flooding in a way that we haven't seen before," said Sweet, who leads the agency's high-tide flooding assessments.

That figure could be modest compared with what lies ahead. High-tide floods in the region are expected to strike 15 times more frequently in 2050 than they did in 2020, Sweet said.

As sea levels continue to rise, the impacts of repeated flooding will continue to worsen, Hino said. And communities need a more granular understanding of their specific vulnerabilities — to plan not only for what lies ahead, but also for what is already happening.

"The physical forces are heading in one direction. What we do [about it] is an open question," Hino said. "This is not a problem for decades into the future, or generations in the future. This is a problem of today."

Trump orders could end Chinese drone sales in the U.S.

The president is seeking to speed up a national security review and will call for more investment in domestic makers

BY GERRIT DE VYNCK, WARREN P. STROBEL AND ELLEN NAKASHIMA

The White House is finalizing multiple executive orders on drones that could lead to Chinese companies being barred from selling new models in the United States, potentially upending the consumer drone market while escalating the growing conflict between the U.S. and China over technology and trade.

The draft orders, which President Donald Trump is expected to sign as early as this week, also call on the federal government to invest in the U.S. domestic drone industry, which has struggled to compete with the Chinese drone makers that currently dominate, people familiar with the matter said. They spoke on the condition of anonymity because the orders were still being finalized.

The new policies also would seek to update federal regulations on where commercial drones can be legally flown after unauthorized incursions over U.S. military bases in recent years, the people said. Politico first reported on the orders Friday.

The draft orders cover commercially used drones, which tend to be smaller than the huge unmanned craft that the U.S. military and the CIA operate.

The popularity of Chinese-made drones in the U.S. has been a long-running concern for the national security community, with some politicians trying to ban them outright. The executive order would direct the U.S. intelligence community to accelerate reviews of whether Chinese drone makers DJI and Autel are national security risks, a determination that Congress in late 2024 mandated to be made.

If the reviews find that the drones do pose a national security risk, Chinese companies could be subject to new licensing requirements that would effectively block them from selling future models of their drones in the U.S., according to two people familiar with draft versions of the orders.

U.S. drone makers have struggled to compete with lower-priced products produced in China, which has a massive and technologically advanced consumer drone industry. Chinese companies, especially DJI, have run some U.S. producers out of the market with their cheaper but highly capable drones sold to a range of users, from entry-level hobbyists to professional search-and-rescue teams and oil and gas surveyors.

The orders include language directing the federal government to more actively support U.S. drone makers, people familiar with drafts of the orders said.

Lisa Ellman, co-founder and CEO of the Commercial Drone Alliance, a nonprofit industry group, said the new rules will provide a much-needed boost to U.S. drone makers and hopefully jump-start investment in the sector.

"We've been asking for U.S. leadership for a really long time," Ellman said. "Our hope is that … we'll see a strong statement from the White House supporting industry, both on the innovation side and the security side."

People familiar with the draft documents say they are also expected to make it easier to fly commercial drones at longer distances, beyond the visual range of the operator.

They are also likely to mandate implementation of a Federal Aviation Administration rule that allows owners of private facilities such as railroads, oil and gas facilities, and amusement parks to ask the agency to restrict commercial drone operations over their sites. The use of drones over military bases and other national security infrastructure is already restricted.

The White House declined to comment before any orders are finalized.

A representative for DJI did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Autel did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The new drone policies in the works are the latest step in Trump's hawkish approach toward China. His administration has threatened Beijing with high tariffs, promised to revoke the visas of Chinese students in the United States, and paused the export of critical materials in response to Beijing's restrictions on the export of critical rare earth minerals. Trump on Friday suggested that China had violated a trade truce reached between the two countries.

The drone order "is not just a ban — it's a blueprint for industrial resilience," said Craig Singleton, a China specialist and senior fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies think tank. "Done right, this E.O. can catalyze a broader U.S. effort to scale domestic production, harden supply chains and align allied drone standards — pushing back on Beijing's techno-authoritarian export model."

The Department of Defense banned the military from using Chinese drones in 2018, providing a lifeline for U.S. drone makers by reducing competition for military contracts. Yet across the U.S., drones from China's DJI help law enforcement agencies with police work, mountain rescue teams to search for lost hikers and insurance companies to assess flooding.

Some states, including Florida, Mississippi and Tennessee, have banned the sale of Chinese drones to police agencies. In December, Congress in the National Defense Authorization Act ordered an unspecified national security agency to conduct the review of DJI and Autel to determine if their technology poses an "unacceptable risk to the national security."

If that review isn't conducted within one year of the bill's passage, Autel and DJI will automatically be blocked from obtaining licenses for new versions of their wireless transmitters from the Federal Communications Commission, effectively making them illegal to sell in the U.S. The new White House executive orders would direct the government to speed up those determinations rather than wait.

"If listed, there will most likely not be new or updated DJI or Autel equipment to be sold on the market because the manufacturers will not be able to obtain FCC certifications for the wireless transmitters," Jonathan Rupprecht, a lawyer who specializes in laws related to drones, wrote in a blog post.

U.S. drone industry lobbyists have said domestic drone companies have rapidly improved their technology and can offer everything DJI and other Chinese companies do.

American drone executives and China hawks in Congress argue that the centrality of smaller drones to modern warfare, proven on battlefields in Ukraine, means that the U.S. cannot afford to have a weak domestic drone manufacturing industry.

JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES

Chinese-made drones for sale in Miami. The popularity of Chinese-made drones in the U.S. has long raised national security concerns.

"Done right, this E.O. can catalyze a broader U.S. effort to scale domestic production, harden supply chains and align allied drone standards — pushing back on Beijing's techno-authoritarian export model."

Craig Singleton, of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies

DIGEST

STOCK MARKET

Indexes continue to rise after strong May

U.S. stock indexes drifted closer to their records on Monday, coming off their stellar May, which was Wall Street's best month since 2023.

The S&P 500 rose 0.4 percent to 5,935.94 after erasing an early loss from the morning. The Dow Jones Industrial Average added 0.1 percent to 42,305.48, and the Nasdaq composite climbed 0.7 percent to 19,242.61.

In the bond market, Treasury yields rose as worries continue about how much debt the U.S. government will pile on due to plans to cut taxes and increase the deficit. The yield on the 10-year Treasury climbed to 4.44 percent from 4.41 percent late Friday and from just 4.01 percent roughly two months ago. That is a notable move for the bond market.

Indexes had been down close to 1 percent in the morning following some discouraging updates on U.S. manufacturing. President Donald Trump has been warning that U.S. businesses and households could feel some pain as he tries to use tariffs to bring more manufacturing jobs back to the country, and their on-and-off rollout has created lots of uncertainty.

Some of Monday's strongest action was in the oil market, where the price of crude spurted more than 3 percent. The countries in the OPEC+ alliance decided to increase their production again, a move that often pushes crude prices down because it puts more on the market, but analysts said investors were widely expecting it. The past weekend's attacks by Ukraine in Russia helped to raise uncertainty about the flow of oil and gas around the world.

— Associated Press

SOCIAL MEDIA

Meta will let brands make ads with AI tools

Meta Platforms aims to allow brands to fully create and target advertisements with its artificial intelligence tools by the end of next year, the Wall Street Journal reported on Monday, citing people familiar with the matter.

The social media company's apps have 3.43 billion unique active users globally and its AI-driven tools help create personalized ad variations, image backgrounds and automated adjustments to video ads, making it lucrative for advertisers.

A brand could provide a product image and a budget, and Meta's AI would generate the ad, including image, video and text, and then determine user targeting on Instagram and Facebook with budget suggestions, the report said. Meta also plans to let advertisers personalize ads using AI, so that users see different versions of the same ad in real time, based on factors such as geolocation, according to the report.

— Reuters

TECHNOLOGY

Apple submits legal challenge to E.U.

Apple has submitted a legal challenge to an E.U. order to open up its closed ecosystem to rivals such as Meta and Alphabet's Google, saying the demands are unreasonable and hamper innovation.

The European Commission had in March detailed how Apple must comply with the Digital Markets Act, which aims to rein in the power of Big Tech. Apple said the EU's interoperability requirements create "a process that is unreasonable, costly, and stifles innovation."

Meta, Google, Spotify and Garmin are among companies that have requested access to Apple users' data. The legal fight will likely take years to play out in court. Until then, Apple will have to comply with the E.U. order.

— Reuters

ALSO IN BUSINESS

Baker Hughes will sell 65 percent of its surface pressure control business to a unit of equipment maker Cactus for $344.5 million, as the oil field services provider focuses on its core businesses amid volatile oil prices. The companies will form a joint venture to hold the business, they said on Monday, with Baker Hughes retaining a 35 percent stake after the deal closes.

Applied Digital said on Monday that it has entered into two 15-year leases with CoreWeave, a specialized cloud services provider backed by Nvidia, which will generate about $7 billion in revenue for the data center operator over the lease period. The deal could prove to be a major lifeline for Applied Digital, which has been facing challenges in the data center hosting sector as it transitions into a data center real estate investment trust. The company's shares surged by 17 percent in pre-market trading following the lease announcement.

— From news services

For the Senate's new majority leader, Trump's spending bill is a big test

With a short timeline and fierce divides, can Thune bring the GOP together?

BY THEODORIC MEYER

CRAIG HUDSON/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Sen. John Thune (R-South Dakota) can afford to lose only three GOP votes on the huge bill, which some Republicans loudly oppose.

Senate Republicans are rushing to pass a massive bill that includes much of President Donald Trump's domestic agenda, the first big legislative test for the party's new majority leader, Sen. John Thune.

When Republicans passed their last mammoth tax bill, in 2017, the South Dakota Republican was a top lieutenant to Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky), then the longtime majority leader. Now, it's all up to Thune to shepherd Trump's agenda through a narrowly divided chamber — where some Republicans are already bashing the bill.

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which passed the House last month, includes new tax and spending cuts, and new funding for border security and defense. Republicans are racing to send the bill to Trump's desk by July 4. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has asked Congress to raise the debt limit, which is included in the bill, by the middle of next month before the government exhausts its borrowing capacity later this summer.

Thune is facing a tough balancing act as he and other Senate Republicans rework the bill. He can lose only three GOP votes — and one Republican, Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, has already vowed to oppose the bill because it would raise the debt limit by trillions of dollars.

Other Senate Republicans have raised serious concerns about the bill.

On one side are Republicans worried about spending cuts. Sens. Susan Collins (Maine), Lisa Murkowski (Alaska) and Josh Hawley (Missouri) have said they are concerned about Medicaid funding cuts. Sen. Thom Tillis (North Carolina) and other Republicans have suggested they will fight to roll back tax breaks for solar, wind and geothermal energy that Democrats passed in 2022 more slowly than the House bill, which would scrap credits for projects that don't start construction within 60 days of Trump signing the bill into law.

"Medicaid is a big, big, big deal for us," Murkowski said last month, adding that she had been raising her concerns about the cuts for months.

On the other side are Republicans pushing for deeper reductions. Sen. Ron Johnson (Wisconsin) has said he won't vote for the bill unless it returns spending to 2019 levels — which would require much more aggressive cuts — and spent much of last week denouncing its shortcomings. Sen. Mike Lee (Utah) warned last week that Republicans needed to include more spending cuts in the bill "or else it's not going to pass."

"Under this bill, under the [Congressional Budget Office] projections, we're still looking at $2.2 trillion a year on average in deficits over the next 10 years," Lee said on "The Charlie Kirk Show." "That's not good enough. We've got to get to a point where we can balance [the budget] during this president's time in office."

Paul also bashed the cuts in the bill last week, describing them as "wimpy and anemic."

Thune has suggested that Senate Republicans might rework the bill to include deeper cuts — especially after Moody's Ratings downgraded the federal government's credit rating last month because of growing deficits and rising interest rates.

"It is a warning shot that we need to get serious about spending restraint," Thune told reporters last month, referring to the downgrade. "That's why I think a lot of colleagues have made it very clear that in order for a bill to get through the House and the Senate and onto the president's desk, it has to make a meaningful dent in the out-of-control spending we've seen over the past several years."

But Thune is also pressing to make permanent several business tax breaks that would expire after a few years in the House bill — which would add billions of dollars to the cost. In the end, he told reporters, "we've got to do what we can get 51 [votes] for."

Neil Bradley, executive vice president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which is running ads backing the bill, said it was too soon to say whether Senate Republicans would cut spending more or less deeply than the House bill does.

"There's always some who think it's too hot, some that think it's too cold," Bradley said. "Where do you find the point where a majority think it's just right?"

Thune and other Senate Republicans might be tempted to find savings by going after a tax break they don't care about: the state and local tax deduction. A handful of House Republicans from New York, New Jersey and California refused to vote for the bill unless it raised the limit on how much their constituents could deduct on their federal returns. But no Senate Republicans hail from the high-tax states where the tax break is a priority for affluent suburban votes.

The more-generous state and local tax deduction included in the House bill would cost more than $350 billion over 10 years, according to the nonpartisan Tax Foundation. But some tax lobbyists tracking the bill are skeptical they'll get rid of it.

Russ Sullivan, a Democratic lobbyist who is the chair of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck's national tax policy group, predicted that Senate Republicans would "hold their nose" to avoid jeopardizing the bill's chances in the House, which will need to pass it again.

"I don't think they'll strip it out entirely," said Rohit Kumar, a former McConnell aide who is now co-leader of PricewaterhouseCoopers' national tax office.

Trump called Friday for Senate Republicans to include more tax cuts in the bill — and he could play a critical role in pressing senators to back the legislation. Thune has forged a close relationship with Trump despite their past differences, including Thune's endorsement of Sen. Tim Scott (R-South Carolina) for president over Trump in the 2024 primary race.

Some of the pressures on Thune as he works to secure the votes are similar to the ones on McConnell eight years ago — and some of the senators pressuring him are the same.

Johnson came out against the 2017 tax bill because of its treatment of "pass-through" businesses before ultimately voting for it after securing changes. Collins raised concerns about scrapping the Affordable Care Act's individual mandate as part of the 2017 bill before backing it.

Other Republicans worried that the 2017 bill would exacerbate the deficit, including Bob Corker of Tennessee, the only Senate Republican to vote against the bill. He left office in 2019.

But Thune is taking a different approach to guiding this bill through the Senate than McConnell did eight years ago, according to Sen. Mike Rounds, Thune's fellow South Dakota Republican. "John Thune gets more personally involved and stays on top of each separate member with the discussions," Rounds said.

McConnell was a taciturn tactician who leaned into his image as "Darth Vader." Thune talks more about teamwork and the importance of taking care of each team member, Rounds said.

"John has always been more approachable," Rounds said. "He's just part of it; he's in the middle of it. He continues to be that way. I think right now if you asked John just exactly what each person in the conference is going to be concerned about, he could probably tell you now."

Ernst's town hall quip shows GOP challenge on messaging around Medicaid

BY PATRICK SVITEK

DEMETRIUS FREEMAN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Sen. Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) in January. Her response at a town hall Friday prompted a state lawmaker to challenge her for reelection.

As Senate Republicans return to work on President Donald Trump's priority legislative package, they face a messaging battle on Medicaid that is fraught with potential pitfalls.

They received a reminder of the perils Friday at an Iowa town hall, when Sen. Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) flippantly responded to an audience member who shouted out that people who lose coverage under the bill would die.

"Well, we all are going to die," Ernst said as the crowd groaned. "For heaven's sakes, folks."

On Saturday, as the remark was taking off on social media, Ernst released a follow-up video. Speaking from what appeared to be a cemetery, she apologized for assuming that everyone at her town hall knew "that, yes, we are all going to perish from this Earth."

Ernst did hit some Republican talking points at her town hall. As they seek to shape how their bill is perceived, Trump and Republican lawmakers have said they are rooting out "waste, fraud and abuse" in Medicaid and shoring up the program for future generations. Republican strategists have urged their party to say they are "strengthening Medicaid" by eliminating fraud, preventing tax increases and making sure undocumented immigrants cannot benefit from the program.

But Ernst's quip about mortality landed on the front page of the Des Moines Register and spread across the internet, not the party line about waste, fraud and undocumented immigrants. The imbroglio underscored the party's messaging challenge as the bill moves through the Senate.

The Republican legislation, which narrowly passed the House last month, seeks to pay for some of Trump's priorities by cutting more than $1 trillion from spending on social safety net programs over the next decade. The changes could lead to 8.7 million people losing Medicaid coverage and 7.6 million more uninsured people over 10 years, according to projections from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

Trump has painted himself as a fierce defender of Medicaid, even as GOP lawmakers stare down the prospect of significantly changing it. He promised during his 2024 campaign to protect entitlement programs and began his second term vowing to "love and cherish" the programs.

"Don't f--- around with Medicaid" benefits, Trump told House Republicans last month shortly before they passed the bill.

The bill that House Republicans passed would increase the number of people without health insurance by restricting eligibility, narrowing the path for some Americans to get coverage and making it easier for some to lose it. The bill would also introduce new rules targeting Medicaid expansion and federally subsidized insurance marketplaces. Republicans say that will target fraud and abuse in the program.

But even House Republican leaders have at times struggled to send a clear message on the eligibility changes.

Rep. Lisa C. McClain (R-Michigan), chair of the House Republican Conference, defended Ernst on Monday when asked about her video in the cemetery, arguing that Democrats are fearmongering about the GOP's Medicaid changes.

"I think she was trying to do a play on words, actually," McClain said on CNN. "Listen, the fearmongering has got to stop, right? We are cutting — we are not cutting — Medicaid. We're actually trying to shore Medicaid up so it's there for the people that need it the most."

But Rina Shah, a former GOP strategist and Capitol Hill aide, said people's concerns about Medicaid are "well-founded" and Republicans should respond accordingly. They should not be defensive, she said, and should patiently explain how they can be "entrepreneurial" in fixing a program that many Republicans, at least, agree needs changes.

"All [Ernst] had to do was kind of walk back and say, 'I just tried to inject a moment of levity, and I'm sorry,'" Shah said. "But the whole problem is she's doing what we see from the Trump administration, which is prioritizing defiance over empathy."

It's not clear Ernst will face much blowback from voters in a state Trump won by 13 percentage points last year. But her handling of the situation prompted state Rep. J.D. Scholten (D) to announce plans to challenge her in next year's Senate race. He told The Washington Post that he had already been thinking about running, but the controversy convinced him. Her comments, he said, were "horrific and tone deaf."

Adding to the challenge, Republicans are not united on changing Medicaid. Cutting the program is "both morally wrong and politically suicidal," Sen. Josh Hawley (R-Missouri) wrote in a New York Times op-ed last month titled "Don't Cut Medicaid."

Hawley spoke Monday with Trump about the bill, according to the senator, and said in a social media post afterward that Trump reiterated: "NO MEDICAID BENEFIT CUTS."

Hawley said that he still has concerns from the House bill that he would want to work out in the Senate but that he supports the House's inclusion of work requirements.

"The right message is we're not going to cut Medicaid benefits," Hawley said. "We're going to do everything we can to help working people who cannot afford to get health care."

Other Senate Republicans want the bill to do more to slash federal spending, including in ways that could further impact Medicaid. Among them is Sen. Rand Paul (Kentucky), who recently made an appearance in Ernst's home state to make his case at a party fundraiser.

Some conservative groups — such as Advancing American Freedom, the group started by former vice president Mike Pence — are urging GOP lawmakers to get serious about overhauling Medicaid, even if doing so is politically painful.

"Republican Senators should stand firm on the House-passed Medicaid reforms that restore the program to its original intent, reduce waste, fraud, and abuse, and ensure fiscal sanity," the group's executive vice president, Paul Teller, said in a statement, adding that conservatives should be the "adults in the room" on the issue.

In-person town halls, such as the one Ernst held in Butler County, Iowa, have already become hot buttons for GOP lawmakers. The head of the House Republican campaign arm, Rep. Richard Hudson (North Carolina), advised members in March to hold virtual town halls rather than in-person events, as they were facing vocal opposition in the opening weeks of Trump's second term.

McClain said Monday that town halls "have gotten a little bit out of control with fearmongering."

Democrats see Ernst's comments as validating their view that Republicans are struggling to defend the Medicaid provisions of the bill because they know they are unpopular. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, which is focused on House races, moved quickly to capitalize on Ernst's town hall, releasing a statement calling for three of Iowa's Republican representatives to say whether they agreed with Ernst.

Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-New York) agreed with an MSNBC host's tongue-in-cheek comment Monday that Ernst's defense of the bill was "unorthodox."

"Abe Lincoln said it right: Public sentiment is everything," Schumer said. "And I guarantee you, Republican senators will be hearing the outrage from their constituencies."

Mariana Alfaro and Matthew Choi contributed to this report.

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TUESDAY OPINION

MATT BAI

The unbearable lightness of Elon Musk

He failed not because his ambitions were too grand, but because they were so pathetically small.

As Elon Musk departs Washington, his mood resembles his Cybertruck: ugly and adolescent.

First, during an interview at the Qatar Economic Forum, when pressed about his anemic results at budget-cutting, Musk told his interviewer, Bloomberg's Mishal Husain, that she sounded like an "NPC" (a non-player character in a video game) who was "trapped in the dialogue tree of a conventional journalist."

Musk said his Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE, lacked the power to impose large-scale reforms "because there are three branches of the government that are to some degree opposed to that level of cost savings."

He entered the same plea of innocence in an interview with The Post's Christian Davenport, whining that DOGE became a "whipping boy" in Washington because it was trying to create such sweeping change. (He used the exact same phrase during an interview with CBS News's David Pogue.)

Musk might comfort himself with this fairy tale, but no one else should believe or promote it. The reality is that he failed not because his ambitions were too grand, but because they were so pathetically small.

That's not to say Musk's Retribution Tour in Washington didn't have huge consequences — because it did, and I've chronicled many of them over the past several months. If you were one of the hundreds of thousands of public servants who were deemed unnecessary or disloyal, you might now be unemployed. If you have a question about your Social Security benefits, you might find yourself waiting for hours on the phone. If you are an AIDS patient or a malnourished child in southern Africa, you might have lost your only lifeline.

No, what I am saying is that these impacts were the result not of some Icarus-like ambition, but rather a pedestrian kind of pettiness. Which is the last thing you would have expected if you had followed Musk's career at all. Musk, after all, is said to have been one of the models for the Tony Stark character in the Iron Man movie series: brilliant, daring, uncontainable (and, ultimately, a superhero). His wealth always seemed an almost accidental product of his grandiose, comic-book-inspired dreams.

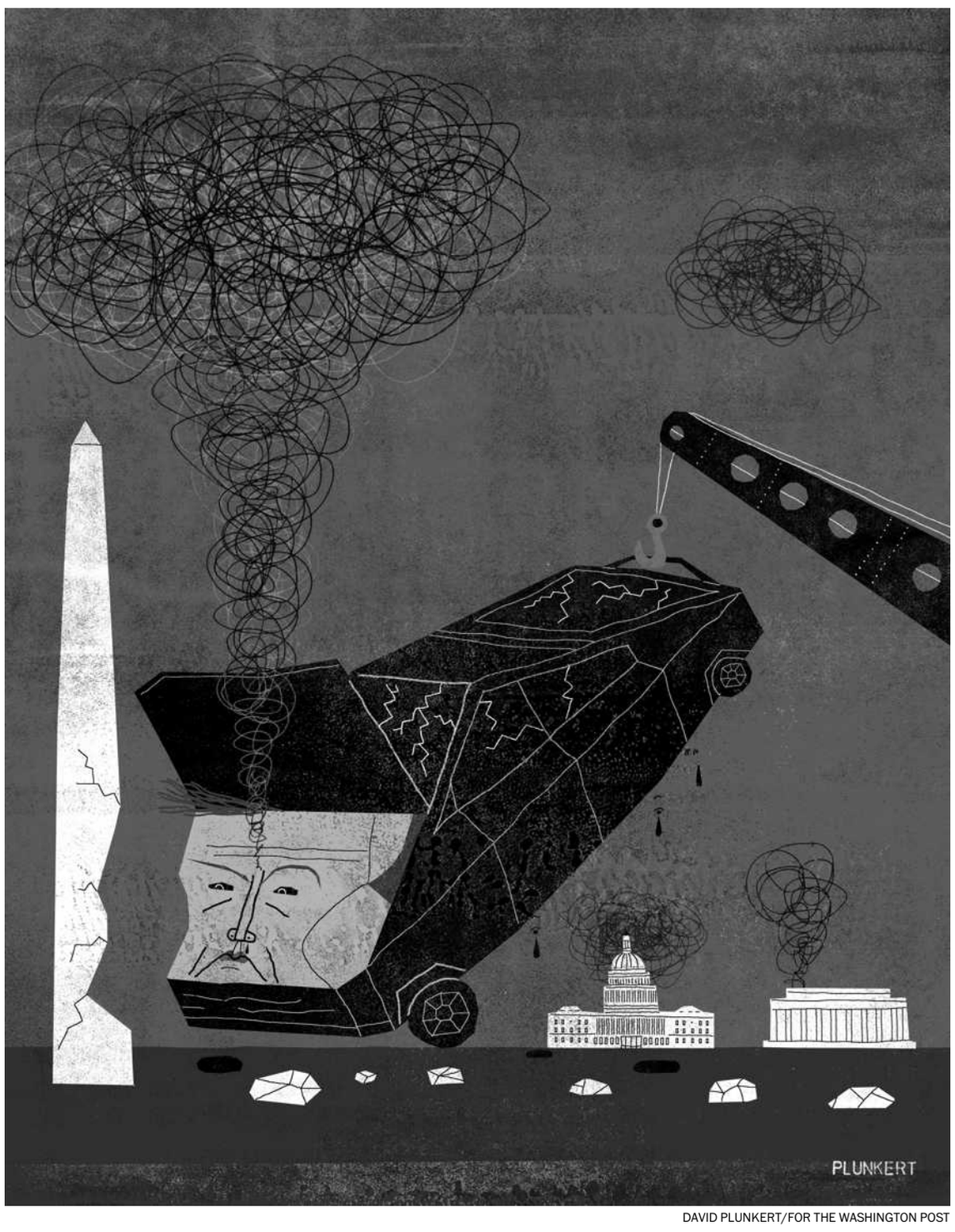
Tesla's rise was fueled by Musk's lifelong passion for saving the Earth by transitioning from oil-and-gas power to electric. SpaceX grew from his unshakable belief that humans would someday need to colonize Mars to survive. In Starlink, Musk saw the potential for a planetary wireless internet, at a time when most U.S. cities were struggling to offer decent WiFi in their libraries.

And don't forget Musk's Boring Company and its proposed "Hyperloop": the thing was supposed to shoot us between cities in some lightning-quick, underground pod, like a pneumatic tube for humans. Sure, not much came of it, but you had to admire the audacity.

Even in his petulant takeover of Twitter, which in some ways presaged his strategy in Washington, Musk claimed to have a farseeing vision. He talked about the necessity of Twitter as an uncensored town square for all humanity; the policing of thought by engineers seemed to him an intolerable evil. (This is before he started manipulating the site to elevate his own views above all others.)

All of which is why, if we're being honest, Musk's bizarre strutting around with a chain saw — and even his Nazi salute during President Donald Trump's postinaugural festivities — didn't damage his public standing much. Brilliant inventors are usually a little wacky, aren't they? Henry Ford was a blatant antisemite. Maybe it's the price you pay.

And if ever there was an ossified institution crying out for this kind of mad genius, it was the federal government. It's not just that Washington is on a perilous path to fiscal ruin and can't face the fact — a situation Musk seemed to grasp when he immediately declared, somewhat absurdly, that DOGE would cut $2 trillion from an annual budget of just over $7 trillion.



DAVID PLUNKERT/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

It's also that trust in the government's ability to do anything well, among a citizenry that now does most everything on digital platforms, appears all but spent. The comically bad rollout of the Obama administration's health-care website in 2013 stands out to me, still, as a crucial moment in this disillusionment. President Barack Obama spent five years trying to convince Americans that government could manage the largest new social program since the 1960s — and then asked them to enroll on a nonfunctioning site that would have embarrassed a high school coding class.

Surely, some of us thought, Musk must have come up with some so-crazy-it-just-might-work plan to modernize the federal bureaucracy. Even if he couldn't reform the policies that really drove our spiraling debt — runaway entitlement spending and obsolete weapons systems — then at least he and the best minds in tech could find some major savings in the software systems they used.

And even if he wasn't going to cut $2 trillion from the budget (Musk quickly amended that figure, setting a floor of $1 trillion instead), then perhaps Musk had in mind something almost as important: the reinventing of government as an app you could trust. How much public faith could you regain if people could log on to a single website and access any service at any time, or get answers to any question from an AI Uncle Sam? Hell, why not a hologram?

Even if he wasn't going to cut $2 trillion from the budget, then perhaps Musk had in mind something almost as important: the reinventing of government as an app you could trust.

It's not like no one has thought of these things before. (Well, a hologram might have been new.) But people who spend their careers in government are not by nature re-inventors. They do not come with superhero aspirations or decades of entrepreneurship, nor are they lifted above the bureaucracy and given exceptional power by the president himself.

Musk had a singular opportunity to create the government of our sci-fi dreams. Not just leaner, but better. More accessible. More *fun*.

Unfortunately, this is where Musk's ever-expanding universe of creativity bumped up against his outer wall of dark energy. He did not have a plan for the budget, nor did he even seem to understand it. He did not have in mind any wild innovations that would make navigating government services feel more like using CarPlay.

No, Musk seemed motivated to do only one thing with DOGE: terrorize the federal workforce. Maybe he was just blinded by rage at the federal regulators who oversaw his industries, and he could see Washington only as a Final Boss whose lair needed to be infiltrated and destroyed by a bunch of gamers drinking Red Bull and crashing on foldout couches.

Whatever the reason, Musk's only Big Idea for his brigade of former interns was to fire as many people as he could, in as humiliating a way as possible. As a reform strategy, it struck me as shockingly lightweight. I mean, really, Elon? You're supposed to be this great, visionary, hyperloopy guy, and *this* is all you've got? A reorg. plan? The Cat in the Hat arrived with more sophisticated tricks.

The public career executions, of course, did nothing to reform federal spending. By its own, highly suspect accounting, DOGE has saved the taxpayers about $175 billion to this point — or less than 3 percent of the budget.

To say that Musk didn't make anything better during his five-month stint, however, is to understate the damage he inflicted. In fact, DOGE has earned the distinction of being the first in a long line of reform initiatives to actually make the problem worse. And not just because its cuts, by one estimate, actually cost the government $135 billion.

During his CBS interview, Musk decried the Trump-backed budget bill that just passed the House, because it will add trillions to the public debt. "I think a bill can be big or it can be beautiful," Musk said, referring to the bill's cringeworthy title, "but I don't know if it can be both. My personal opinion."

It's an opinion I share. What Musk doesn't seem to realize, however, is that Trump would have had a much harder time selling that bill to resistant Republicans had it not been for Musk's silly cosplay with a chain saw.

"For many months, when DOGE was the bright, shiny object with promises of annual savings of a trillion or more, it gave cover to lawmakers crafting a massive reconciliation bill dependent on borrowing," Maya MacGuineas, president of the bipartisan Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, told me just after the bill passed. "Now, we're left with a debt-exploding tax package and DOGE savings that are at most a tiny fraction of what was advertised."

I suppose it's possible that DOGE will live on for a while after Musk, making token cuts here and there — though I highly doubt it. What awaits Musk after DOGE is a more interesting question.

As I've written, Musk has taken full advantage of his time at the peak of power. He has personally negotiated deals for Starlink with foreign leaders as they try to avoid crippling tariffs — a shakedown by implication, at a minimum. Meanwhile, Trump has put his considerable prowess as a pitchman to work for Tesla, using the White House as a backdrop.

But Musk's standing among the public — not to mention some of his board members and investors — has plummeted. At a time when electric cars are selling at a higher rate in most of the world, Tesla's sales are down at least 9 percent domestically and closer to 50 percent in Europe, almost certainly because Musk's personal brand has become so toxic.

And, so, Musk's Rehabilitation Tour has begun. He says he is done with political activism. He will now tell and retell the same story of disillusionment he offered last month: that he came to Washington as a private-sector patriot, offering to take government to new heights, and found himself smacked down to earth by powerful forces of gravity and inertia.

It's a convenient fiction. Musk's flameout had nothing to do with gravity, and everything to do with the lack of it.

What we can learn from the senator who nearly died for democracy

BY ZAAKIR TAMEEZ

On May 13, a man who made death threats against Sen. Jacky Rosen (D-Nevada) for her foreign policy views was sentenced to nearly four years in prison. In April, Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) said she was "afraid" of using her voice to speak about political controversies. A month before that, Sen. Thom Tillis (R-North Carolina) released audio recordings of death threats he received while he was considering how to vote on Pete Hegseth's nomination as defense secretary.

Most senators abhor all forms of political violence, of course. But at least one senator seemed to make light of it. In April, Markwayne Mullin (R-Oklahoma) joked on X about "bringing back caning to settle political disputes." He was referring to the caning of Sen. Charles Sumner of Massachusetts, an act of Senate violence that occurred 169 years ago.

Over two days — May 19 and May 20 in 1856 — Sumner delivered a stinging antislavery speech on the Senate floor that accused Southern leaders of undermining democracy. An outraged congressman, Preston Brooks of South Carolina, lashed out on May 22 to avenge the South's honor. With a gold-tipped gutta-percha cane, Brooks beat Sumner so badly that the cane shattered into pieces. Rendered unconscious, Sumner soaked in a pool of his own blood in what is now the Old Senate Chamber.

Though Sumner barely survived, his assault breathed new life into the antislavery movement. Voters recognized a parallel between Sumner's beating and the beatings that those enslaved in the South experienced daily. In the fall of 1856, outraged Northerners elected scores of politicians who went to Washington demanding that slavery be abolished or restricted.

"No one act," Frederick Douglass observed, "did more to rouse the North."

High school students learn about Sumner's caning in U.S. history class, but few grasp the full story. As threats of political violence rise, it's appropriate to revisit the caning to learn three lessons that most history textbooks overlook.

The first is that many politicians rejected America's founding texts, sacrosanct as they are, in the lead-up to the Civil War. One of the senators who hated Sumner the most, John Pettit of Indiana, belittled the immortal words that Thomas Jefferson wrote into the Declaration of Independence: the phrase "all men are created equal." A proslavery statesman who embraced white supremacy, Pettit scorned this Jeffersonian ideal of human equality as "a self-evident lie."

After nearly killing Sumner, Brooks barely faced any consequences and became a celebrity at proslavery rallies across the South. At one such rally with an estimated 10,000 attendees, Brooks declared that "the Constitution of the United States should be torn to fragments." Openly calling for a treasonous insurrection, Brooks — an enslaver — said he wanted "a Southern Constitution formed in which every state should be a slave state."

The second lesson is that anti-constitutional rhetoric from politicians, as the caning shows, can overlap with direct political violence. Only weeks before the caning, David Rice Atchison of Missouri — the former president pro tempore of the Senate — led an armed gang into the territory of Kansas. With bowie knives and guns, Atchison's men seized polling locations, intimidated voters and stuffed thousands of fraudulent ballots into the voting boxes. Their goal was to ensure that Kansas voted to become a slavery state, even if it required violence and election fraud to make it happen. "If we win," Atchison told his thugs, "we can carry slavery to the Pacific Ocean."

Proslavery politicians in the 1850s often resorted to extreme force to impose their will. The Maryland and Tennessee legislatures banned abolitionist newspapers. Virginia made it a crime to criticize slavery. North Carolina subjected anyone who encouraged enslaved people to resist to the death penalty. There was effectively no freedom of speech, not even for White citizens who disliked slavery. When Abraham Lincoln ran for president in 1860, most Southern states were so outraged by Lincoln's modestly antislavery platform that they refused to put his name on the ballot.

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Charles Sumner

The brutal caning of Sen. Charles Sumner in 1856 shows the difference between courage and concession.

The vast suppression of antislavery political activity was working. Wealthy enslavers dominated American politics for decades, and they were met with relatively little protest from Northern politicians or voters. They surmised, as one Southern newspaper put it, that "vulgar abolitionists" could be simply "LASHED INTO SUBMISSION." Given this conclusion, Brooks probably anticipated little Northern backlash after he flogged Sumner with his cane.

Yet, the opposite happened. Through grassroots programs, tens of thousands of people gathered in "indignation meetings" to lament Sumner's assault and strategize political responses. The Republican Party — founded on the idea that slavery should be abolished in federal territories — passed out as many as 3 million copies of the speech that led to the caning. Sumner's near-martyrdom energized the Northern public so much that it probably contributed to Lincoln's epic victory in the 1860 presidential election.

In many ways, Sumner anticipated the violence directed at him — and that it could have positive political effects. Northern politicians knew that speaking against slavery could lead to physical harm. Sen. Henry Wilson of Massachusetts expected the 1856 congressional session to "be the most violent one in our history." When Sumner presented a draft of his speech to a few friends, Sen. William H. Seward of New York begged him to temper the message out of concern for Sumner's safety. And yet, Sumner persisted, believing that a brave speech and its possibly violent ramifications could jolt the antislavery movement into action.

There is a final lesson from the caning — one that senators who operate under the fear of violence today would do well to consider. To galvanize a public that had been asleep to democratic slippage, Sumner believed that politicians like him needed to be brave. If they had to risk their physical safety to speak their conscience, so be it. In his mind, these exhibitions of personal courage were necessary to show voters that their representatives were serious about resisting autocracy. He thought that courage, not concession, was the key to political success against antidemocratic threats. While stumping for Lincoln in the 1860 presidential election, Sumner quoted from the Irish novelist Jonathan Swift to articulate this piece of his political philosophy: "And know that to be brave," Swift said, "is to be wise."

Zaakir Tameez is the author of "Charles Sumner: Conscience of a Nation," to be released on June 3.

OPINION

The Washington Post
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Antisemitism does not respect national borders

EDITORIAL

THE WALKERS in Boulder, Colorado, had gathered peacefully every Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock to ensure that the world did not forget the hostages Hamas still holds, more than 600 days after the terrorist attacks against Israel on Oct. 7, 2023. The Boulder effort, part of a global initiative called Run for Their Lives, has been profound yet modest: just a few dozen people wearing red, walking along a pedestrian mall and saying the captives' names.

On Sunday, the ritual made global news, for the wrong reasons. Egyptian national Mohamed Sabry Soliman, 45, allegedly used a makeshift flamethrower and tossed molotov cocktails into the crowd while yelling "Free Palestine" and "You all deserve to die." After being detained at the scene, he reportedly told police: "I did it to avenge my people." Federal charging documents allege that Soliman had been planning the attack for a year.

President Donald Trump is using this hate crime to justify the continuation of his crackdown on foreigners. "This is yet another example of why we must keep our Borders SECURE, and deport Illegal, Anti-American Radicals from our Homeland," he wrote Monday on social media.

It's true that Soliman should not have been in the United States. The Department of Homeland Security said on Monday that he is in the country illegally. He arrived at Los Angeles International Airport in August 2022 on a tourist visa, which expired in February 2023. He filed an asylum claim in September 2022 and was granted work authorization in March 2023, but this expired a few months ago.

Crimes committed by those in the country illegally should not have happened. Even advocates of high levels of immigration must admit that the United States should know who is entering the United States, along with any threats they pose.

Yet most immigrants come to this country for refuge and work. Those who commit crimes discredit the vast majority, legal or not. Cutting illegal immigration is doable — but ending it is impossible, and the high costs of trying would be intolerable.

More to the point, somehow stopping all illegal immigration would not end antisemitism in America. Virulent and violent antisemitism transcends national boundaries. The cold-blooded murders of two Israeli Embassy staffers outside the Capital Jewish Museum last month underscored the homegrown element of the threat. That alleged killer, a 31-year-old from Chicago, chanted "Free, free Palestine" before being taken into custody. In April, a 38-year-old from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, set fire to the residence of Gov. Josh Shapiro (D) during Passover. The alleged perpetrator called 911 afterward to indicate he had been motivated by the Jewish governor's support for Israel in the Gaza war.

The Boulder attack came on the eve of another Jewish holiday: Shavuot, which celebrates God's gift of the Torah to the Jewish people at Mount Sinai.

The president says the suspect in the Boulder terrorist attack should not have been here. True — but he's missing the point.

All American Jews are victims of such antisemitic terrorism, which aims to paralyze the diaspora with fear. There is no easy solution. Minds can take decades to change. Politicians who encourage and exploit divisions over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict do not help. A worthwhile approach — though not guaranteed to work, particularly at a satisfying speed — is the one the Boulder walkers used to highlight the plight of the Hamas hostages: peacefully appealing to people's basic humanity.

No matter what one thinks of the war in Gaza, those hostages are innocent victims, just as the Boulder walkers are blameless for Israel's conduct in Gaza. A message to the WhatsApp group used by the Colorado walkers said the weekly marches have been canceled indefinitely. We hope the organizers reconsider. Hamas killed about 1,200 people on Oct. 7 and took 251 hostages. More than half have been rescued or released. More than 80 have been confirmed killed. Hamas released 21-year-old Edan Alexander, the last American hostage known to be alive, to coincide with Trump's trip to the Middle East last month.

Only 23 hostages are believed to still be alive in Gaza. Among them are a student, a software tester, a bartender and several soldiers. These are their names: Matan Angrest, Gali Berman, Ziv Berman, Elkana Bohbot, Rom Braslavski, Nimrod Cohen, Ariel Cunio, David Cunio, Evyatar David, Guy Gilboa-Dalal, Maxim Herkin, Eitan Horn, Bipin Joshi, Segev Kalfon, Bar Kupershtein, Omri Miran, Eitan Abraham Mor, Tamir Nimrodi, Yosef-Chaim Ohana, Alon Ohel, Avinatan Or, Nattapong Pinta and Matan Zangauker.

Their names are worth repeating.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Winning words for Democrats

Regarding the May 27 front-page article "Democrats' struggles revive the debate over word choice":

The Post's reporting about Democrats' debate over language hits at a core tension that the party is facing as it struggles to regain its footing after last year's election debacle: ideological purity vs. practicality.

Liberal and left-wing Democrats have adopted and created language that is intended to try to distance themselves from traditional views and to show their concern for underrepresented people. Non-gender-specific pronouns and new terms for classes of people are among these innovations: Prostitutes are now "sex workers," illegal immigrants become "undocumented workers," a husband and a wife are transformed into "partners," and someone who is dumb must be "intellectually impaired."

What these Democrats fail to understand is that empty symbolism is worthless. Their goal should be to get elected so they can provide material help to these people. Using language that is out of touch with societal norms might make them feel good (whether it makes the objects of their concern feel good is another matter). But it will keep them on the losing side of elections. Republicans continue to use the term "woke" as a pejorative, and they have been successful. Moderate Democrats such as myself cringe as more and more independents vote Republican because they believe Democrats are arrogant Ivy Leaguers who have lost touch with mainstream America.

Liberals and left-wing Democrats must realize that they can make changes from within once they get elected. Using terms that help Republicans characterize them as being out of touch will keep them powerless and make them unable to help anyone.

David L. Elkind, *Arlington*

Consider code-switching

The online subtitle for this article — "From 'intersectionality' to 'equity,' many say jargon is alienating key voters. But progressives say inclusive language is vital." — suggests that there are only two options for Democrats. But why can't those with platforms be more linguistically nimble? Why not pivot and use "social inequity" in one context and "unfair advantage" in another?

The fact that we are arguing over language is both nutty and great. I love to nitpick! As a poet and professor, I love choosing my words carefully.

But as a voter, I say choose what is best for the context. Today, the overall context is winning the next election. I am not suggesting we call everything "a beautiful bill" or find ways to make things "great again." "Beautiful" has nothing to do with a bill that, say, saves Medicaid. "Beautiful" might immediately be appealing to some, but it's not a useful way to express many policy ideas. To me, the word has the same effect as pouring corn syrup into cereal. Ugh.

But what about buzzwords? The use of "oligarchy" by Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vermont) is both a potential learning moment and a clear expression of his view that democracy is under attack. He is not just talking about "rich people"; he is addressing the issue that some of the wealthiest people have also gained political power and influence. The word also alludes to the symbiotic power that Russian President Vladimir Putin enjoys with oligarchs in his country. I say "oligarchs" is okay to use.

The reason? A big word differs from so-called jargon. When liberals use "intersectionality," they slam the door on dialogue with many people, myself among them. Too often — though not always — the usage sounds like an attempt to show off a political affiliation, a level of education or a worldview rather than to communicate.

"Language that reduces stigma" is important and can be the means for radical change. If, at this moment in history, the aim is to be culturally correct, by all means employ "connectivity." If the aim is to win the next election, let's just work to connect.

Kimiko Hahn, *Mattituck, New York*

MICHAEL RAMIREZ

A dangerous cocktail

Style is substance

In The Post's reporting on Democrats' fights over their use of jargon, Daria Hall, an executive vice president of a progressive communications firm, is quoted as saying, "We are simply asking people to consider the language they are using as we move toward shared goals."

Au contraire. This debate is not merely about style; it is also about substance.

For example, the word "equality" refers to having an even chance, whereas the word "equity" refers to producing the same outcomes. Equality lets the chips fall where they may; equity rigs the game.

And Allison Prasch, an instructor at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, is quoted as saying that "Democrats trip over themselves in an attempt to say exactly the right thing."

Nonsense. Some Democrats trip all over themselves trying to obscure the meaning of what they say. Take referring to felons as part of "justice-involved populations." Likewise, the term "undocumented person" implies that the problem is one of paperwork. It simply omits the fact that the person resides in the United States illegally.

Joe Benning, *Reston*

Freedom from fecklessness

This article was an excellent starting point for the debate that Democrats need to have about what they stand for and how to express themselves. As an independent who wishes the party well, I wonder whether President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Four Freedoms" might be one place from which to draw inspiration.

Roosevelt's freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want and freedom from fear could become freedom from violence, freedom of personal conviction, freedom from autocracy and freedom of opportunity. Democrats could credibly claim to be the true "Freedom Party" by offering a positive vision of America and what we as a people aspire to be.

Voters are tired of squabbling over petty issues, and they are tired of being told the future is bleak. After two terms of President Donald Trump, the American people will be ready to embrace change — but the right kind of change, well expounded. Within the larger umbrella of a well-crafted Four Freedoms, there would be space for and a way of expressing the ideas that are currently hitting the voters as erratic sound bites tossed out by a leaderless movement. Policies would have a home within an intellectual architecture that would draw voters back to freedom as the guiding principle.

Keith Mines, *Alexandria*

Getting beyond Trump

President Donald Trump has just done yet another thing that would have led to the impeachment and conviction of any other president: He pardoned a man who pleaded guilty to tax crimes just one month after the man's mother attended a $1 million-a-head MAGA fundraiser at Mar-a-Lago. This looks like a blatant quid pro quo. With Trump, it is par for the course.

Sadly, few Trump supporters will care about this suspicious action, but they will take great joy in watching the president's detractors whine and complain about this fishy pardon.

As a scholar who studied political rhetoric for four decades, I believe the rules of the game have changed and the rhetorical playing field is no longer the same. Democrats can't regain control if their message is exclusively or primarily a "not Trump" one. They must convince voters that they will fix the problems that negatively impact Americans' lives the most. This then can be contrasted with what Trump has and hasn't done, and promises he has made and failed to keep. Such a message offers the best persuasive strategy for Democrats going forward.

Richard Cherwitz, *Camas, Washington*

Time for Project 2029

Sen. Elissa Slotkin (D-Michigan) said President Donald Trump's strategists "figured out the slogans, but they have no plans." What in the world does she think Project 2025 is?

Seems to me it's a roughly 900-page "plan," meticulously put together so even a guy whose behavior indicates a lack of intellectual horsepower and focus can wreak devastation on the nation.

The real question: Who in the Democratic Party is writing Project 2029?

Jon McBride, *Chevy Chase*

Seriously?

Why in the world can't the Democratic Party figure out this no-brainer? Ever hear of focus groups?

Mark A. Kantor, *Rockville*

It's how you say it

I am happy to see my Democratic Party focus on word choices. The words we use have an obvious impact on how we are heard and understood. As Mark Twain is said to have written, "The right word may be effective, but no word was ever as effective as a rightly timed pause."

But my experience working with campaigns, and reinforced by teaching speech at the college level, is that persuasion relies as much on *how* you say something as *what* you say.

The Greek scholars had a paradigm of rhetoric, widely attributed to Aristotle, with three elements to persuasion. A closer look at these elements demonstrates the importance of delivery in persuasion.

Logos: Proper word choices can show, and strengthen, the logic of your message. But a well-structured and coherent argument, where an idea is followed by evidence presented logically, persuades listeners more than words alone. It is easier to follow a logical argument.

Ethos: A speaker's credibility, whether expressed through their life experiences or credentials they have earned, is the second element of persuasion. When the audience believes a speech is informed by genuine experience and commitment over time, listeners are more likely to trust that person's words.

Pathos: Passion and conviction conveyed through emotionally charged words and physical presence are strengthened when the delivery exudes commitment, energy, vocal variety and urgency. Plus, a passionate delivery can inspire and resonate, making the message memorable.

When all three elements of persuasion are present, the speaker has the elusive silver bullet of persuasion: authenticity, their true and best self on display to the audience.

Words are important. But delivery is, too. And mastering delivery enhances the impact of our messages, making communication more persuasive.

Brad Knott, *Kensington*
The writer is an adjunct professor of political communications and speech at the University of Maryland Global Campus.

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OPINION

RAMESH PONNURU

The MAHA way: Overreach for me, but not for thee

Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s "MAHA" movement is the child of covid-19. During the pandemic, public health agencies and the academics who supported them discredited themselves in the eyes of much of the public, especially on the right. That's why Republicans became willing, even eager, to see that establishment and the pharmaceutical industry laid low, and less inclined to heed warnings that Kennedy, now the secretary of health and human services, is a crank.

The backlash was inevitable. Lockdowns, social-distancing rules, vaccine mandates on adults: The country had never seen such large-scale and pervasive coercion outside of wartime. The missteps and inconsistencies that accompanied these policies added to the distrust, but the fundamental critique was that the public health world was heavy-handed and arrogant. Kennedy and his allies played to that mood by adopting the catchphrase of "medical freedom."

Now that MAHA, which stands for "Make America Healthy Again," has a taste of power, however, it's an open question whether it will retain that perspective — or indulge in its own form of bossiness.

Restrictions on liberty in the name of public health are sometimes warranted — even the strictest libertarian has to concede that. But when it is not necessary to limit freedom, it is necessary not to. Covid policy blew past that concern. The Biden administration tried to force all employees of large companies to get vaccinated on the dubious rationale that unvaccinated workers posed a great danger to their vaccinated colleagues. The Supreme Court rightly blocked this initiative because Congress never agreed to this unprecedented expansion of federal power.

The concern about overreaching government that motivated the opposition to that mandate lives on in today's MAHA causes. Kennedy has spoken favorably about loosening regulations on the sale and consumption of raw, unpasteurized milk and legalizing psychedelics. His comments on vaccines over the past few months have emphasized freedom of choice: "If vaccines are working for somebody, I'm not going to take them away. People ought to have choice, and that choice ought to be informed by the best information."

Kennedy touted research purporting to show that vaccines cause autism long after its fraudulence was exposed, so his judgment of "best information" cannot be trusted. Full freedom of choice over vaccination would also be an overreaction to covid-era restrictions on liberty: Surely, at least some of the vaccine mandates that schools impose pass any reasonable cost-benefit test.

Other MAHA priorities, however, show no concern for personal liberty. Among Kennedy's first moves as HHS secretary was a ban on certain food dyes, supposedly voluntary on the part of food companies but with the threat of a federal crackdown in the background. (Food and Drug Administration head Marty Makary has said the FDA would consider "every tool in the toolbox" if its "friendly" approach falls short.) The fact that consumers can easily avoid the unproven risks of the dyes — organic choices have proliferated for decades — did not prevent MAHA from celebrating. The move did not inspire much controversy because it had support from the very public health establishment MAHA usually sets itself against. Both sides could come together to offer Americans the supposed benefit of having fewer choices.

Also on the MAHA agenda: banning pharmaceutical ads directed at consumers. It's the first bullet point listed by a pro-Kennedy group that calls itself "Stand for Health Freedom," but does not seem to have a high degree of self-awareness. Kennedy's overall beliefs also seem to point in the direction of a government-driven restructuring of the food industry. If companies such as Kellogg's and McDonald's truly "mass poison American children," as he has said, then the case for federal intervention appears much stronger than it does for just food dyes.

Kennedy's instincts are to play up dubious panics of all kinds, a political style that libertarians have long recognized as a formula for government overreach. The "MAHA report" from the Trump administration purports to document "the stark reality of children's declining health." The news website NOTUS showed that some of the studies it cited — for example, showing that children are overmedicated for asthma — do not exist. (The report has been massaged since the story was published.) What has drawn less attention is the selectivity and exaggeration in the report's presentation of the data. From all of its references to a childhood health "crisis" — the word appears 40 times in its 73 pages — you would never guess that child mortality rates have continued their long decline. In that crucial respect, American children don't need to be made "healthy again."

What we're seeing isn't new humility from health agencies chastened by the decline in trust in them. The new HHS is just as confident as the old public health establishment, but with even less evidence to back its pronouncements.

"Medical freedom" sounds appealing. The slogan for which MAHA stands might, however, be more revealing of its ultimate ambitions: America, and therefore Americans, are the object and not the subject of the sentence. We should guard our ability to get a second opinion.

RUSSIAN DEFENSE MINISTRY PRESS SERVICE/AP

In this image taken from video, a pair of Tu-95 strategic bombers are parked at an air base in Russia on Jan. 24, 2022.

MAX BOOT

Ukraine just rewrote the rules of war

On Sunday morning, Dec. 7, 1941, the Imperial Japanese Navy rewrote the rules of warfare. Almost no one had imagined that the Japanese could sneak across an entire ocean to attack an "impregnable fortress," as U.S. strategists had described Hawaii. Yet that is just what they did. Japanese aircraft launched from six aircraft carriers managed to destroy or damage 328 U.S. aircraft and 19 U.S. Navy ships, including eight battleships. The Pearl Harbor attack signaled the ascendance of aircraft carriers as the dominant force in naval warfare.

The Ukrainians rewrote the rules of warfare again on Sunday. The Russian high command must have been as shocked as the Americans were in 1941 when the Ukrainians carried out a surprise attack against five Russian air bases located far from the front — two of them thousands of miles away in the Russian Far North and Siberia. The Ukrainian intelligence service, known as the SBU, managed to sneak large numbers of drones deep inside Russia in wooden cabins transported by truck, then launch them by remote control.

President Volodymyr Zelensky claimed that Operation Spiderweb, as the Ukrainians are calling it, destroyed or disabled a third of the bombers Russia has been using to launch long-range cruise missiles against Ukraine. Among the Russian planes that were hit, reportedly, were Tu-95 and Tu-22 bombers and A-50 airborne early warning and control aircraft, akin to the U.S. AWACS. (There is no independent confirmation yet of the damage.)

Little wonder that Russian military bloggers rushed to compare Sunday's attack to the one on Pearl Harbor 84 years ago. The analogy is inapt in that, while the Pearl Harbor attack signaled the start of a new war, the airfield attack against Russia was simply another attempt by Ukrainians to defend themselves against the unprovoked war of aggression launched by Vladimir Putin in 2022. But the analogy might make sense in that both attacks could signal the obsolescence of once-dominant weapons systems: battleships in 1941, manned aircraft today. Swarms of Ukrainian drones that probably cost tens of thousands of dollars to build in total might have inflicted $2 billion of damage on Russia's most sophisticated aircraft.

In the process, the Ukrainians revealed a vulnerability that should give every general in the world sleepless nights. If the Ukrainians could sneak drones so close to major air bases in a police state such as Russia, what is to prevent the Chinese from doing the same with U.S. air bases? Or the Pakistanis with Indian air bases? Or the North Koreans with South Korean air bases?

Militaries that thought they had secured their air bases with electrified fences and guard posts will now have to reckon with the threat from the skies posed by cheap, ubiquitous drones that can be easily modified for military use. This will necessitate a massive investment in counter-drone systems. Money spent on conventional manned weapons systems increasingly looks to be as wasted as spending on the cavalry in the 1930s.

Swarms of Ukrainian drones that probably cost tens of thousands of dollars to build in total might have inflicted $2 billion of damage on Russia's most sophisticated aircraft.

Operation Spiderweb will not be a decisive blow against the Russian military any more than the Pearl Harbor attack was a decisive blow against the U.S. military. But just as Pearl Harbor signaled that Japan would be a far more formidable foe than most Westerners had expected, Sunday's attack shows, yet again, that the Ukrainians are proving far more resilient and adaptable fighters than anyone had anticipated before the start of Russia's full-scale invasion more than three years ago.

The front lines remain stalemated, and the Ukrainians are making up for their manpower deficit by developing a world-leading drone industry. The Ukrainians say they produced 2.2 million drones last year and aim to build 4.5 million this year. Of course, the Russians are building their own drones, with Iranian help. But they have consistently been a step or two behind the Ukrainians in the drone race, as Sunday's operation again showed.

Operation Spiderweb was a brilliant and daring gambit to make up for the fact that Ukraine is running low on ammunition for its Patriot air-defense systems — and President Donald Trump appears in no mood to send any replacements. European countries are trying to help, but Patriots are in scarce supply. Rather than simply trying to shoot down Russian missiles in flight, the Ukrainians figured out how to disable the aircraft that launch the missiles while they are sitting on a tarmac.

During the infamous Trump-Zelensky argument in the Oval Office in February, the U.S. president told his Ukrainian counterpart: "You don't have the cards." Well, Zelensky just played — if you will pardon the phrase — his trump card: Ukrainian ingenuity. The Ukrainians have consistently shown themselves to be more courageous and skilled than their enemies, even if the performance of the Russian armed forces has improved since the early days of the war.

Though signaling Ukrainian resolve, Sunday's attack could also undermine nuclear stability, because the same bombers that launch conventional cruise missiles against Ukraine are also designed to launch nuclear weapons. This should serve to remind us of why it is so dangerous to have such a chaotic U.S. administration at such a dangerous moment. At a time like this, it would be nice if the president had a fully staffed National Security Council led by a tested, seasoned adviser — rather than an NSC that is led by a moonlighting secretary of state and that has just been purged of many of its most experienced staffers.

Trump has been fulminating about Russian air attacks on Ukrainian civilians, but he is not doing anything about them. The Ukrainians have taken matters into their own hands. The drone strike, though raising the strategic stakes and no doubt provoking Russian retaliation, is exactly the kind of high-pressure tactic needed to persuade Putin to negotiate in earnest, just as the two sides are set to sit down again in Turkey. Through their actions, the Ukrainians are signaling they refuse to be defeated — and that they have the resources to keep fighting.

An authoritarian came for my university. His goal was clear.

BY MICHAEL IGNATIEFF

The Trump administration's attacks on Harvard University and higher education are the most serious assault on academic freedom in American history. Nothing compares to it: not the clampdown on free speech during World War I, not Sen. Joseph McCarthy's harassment of professors in the 1950s. The administration has demanded control over hiring and curriculum, canceled billions in federal research funding, and, most recently, sought to annul the university's ability to accept foreign students.

President Donald Trump's assault on Harvard will not be limited to the Ivy League campus. The battle to come will be a fundamental test of the U.S. Constitution and of American democracy itself. I should know: I was the rector of Central European University when a similar authoritarian attack on universities, led by Prime Minister Viktor Orban, forced us to move our teaching programs out of Hungary.

Orban was the first leader to show Trump that attacking universities as bastions of privilege is a political strategy that pays dividends. Orban chose his target with care. At the time, CEU was a U.S.- and Hungarian-accredited graduate school in the social sciences and humanities, founded by the Hungarian American billionaire George Soros in 1991 to give his native country an open university as it transitioned out of communism.

Why did Orban target a school that had stayed out of politics and posed no threat to his power? Each of Orban's motives led back to his courtship of Trump. Orban was the only European Union head of government to endorse Trump in the 2016 presidential election. After Trump won, Orban had the signal he needed to go after CEU, since he could be sure the new president would be delighted by an attack on an institution founded by Soros, a longtime donor to liberal causes and the Democratic Party.

The deeper motive for Orban's attack on universities is the one that should worry Americans most: Expelling CEU was a crucial step in his systematic plan to replace Hungary's institutions with what Orban calls "illiberal democracy." Orban is the pioneer in using a democratic mandate to attack democracy. By the time Orban attacked CEU, he had already rewritten the Hungarian constitution, gerrymandered the electoral system, muzzled the Hungarian constitutional court, taken hold of state media and brought the rest of the Hungarian higher education system under the control of party bureaucrats. So when Orban finally rammed a law through his rubber-stamp parliament effectively declaring CEU illegal, the university was on its own.

We fought back as best we could. CEU rallied support from universities around the world, and Orban's inbox was bombarded for weeks with letters from university presidents telling him to stop. Novelist Mario Vargas Llosa flew in from Madrid to lend his prestige to our cause. Tens of thousands of people gathered to protest. When the huge crowd surged across Budapest's Szechenyi Chain Bridge, heading for parliament and chanting "free universities in a free society," everyone at CEU knew that they were ordinary Hungarians who understood we were fighting for them, too.

Nothing mattered. Orban could count on Trump's administration to let him get away with it. After fighting for years, CEU had been forced out of Budapest. We reestablished ourselves next door in Vienna, where we continued to educate students from around the world. The European Court of Justice ruled in our favor in a judgment, but justice came too late. By then we had moved. We are proud to have made it through, but no university community had been treated like this in Europe since Germany's eviction of its Jewish scholars in the 1930s.

Orban framed his attack on universities as a defense of national culture against rampant liberalism and academic elitism. This framing was full of lessons for the Trump acolytes who prepared the attack on Harvard. For years, conservative commentators and politicians have made the pilgrimage to Budapest to learn from the master. In an interview last year, then-Sen. JD Vance (R-Ohio) made the Hungarian connection explicit: "The closest that conservatives have ever gotten to successfully dealing with left-wing domination of universities is Viktor Orban's approach in Hungary," Vance told Rod Dreher of the Danube Institute in Budapest. "I think his way has to be the model for us: not to eliminate universities, but to give [them] a choice between survival or taking a much less biased approach to teaching."

Without Trump, Orban would never have dared to attack an American institution. And without Orban, Trump and his reactionaries might never have discovered that attacking a university "feeds the base." As the former leader of a university under threat, I know that attempts to strip a university's freedom to govern itself, to decide whom it hires and what it teaches, are not marginal battles of interest only to academics.

The objective is clear: to establish single-party domination and an uncontrolled and uncontrollable presidency. If you dismiss Harvard's battle as the rearguard struggle of an entitled elite, don't be surprised when you and your institution become the next target.

The writer, a Canadian historian, was president and rector of Central European University from 2016 to 2021.

Witnesses reported hearing man shout 'Free Palestine' at pedestrian mall

BY KIM BELLWARE, BEN BRASCH AND MARÍA LUISA PAÚL

The man accused of using molotov cocktails Sunday to injure a dozen people who were part of a march calling for the release of hostages in Gaza had been planning the attack for a year, according to a criminal complaint.

Federal prosecutors on Monday charged the 45-year-old man with a hate crime after they say he targeted a march organized by a Jewish group in Boulder, Colorado. Mohamed Sabry Soliman faces 42 local felony charges.

The attack — which is being investigated as a targeted act of terror — sent eight people to the hospital with burns and other injuries.

The incident unfolded on the eve of Shavuot, a two-day holiday that celebrates God giving the Torah to the Jewish people at Mount Sinai. It also comes during a period of heightened concern among U.S. Jewish community after a fatal shooting in May of two people who worked at the Israeli Embassy in Washington.

Police were called to an area near the Pearl Street Mall in Boulder around 1:30 p.m. Sunday in response to reports that a man had a weapon and that "people were being set on fire," Boulder Police Chief Stephen Redfearn said.

Witnesses reported that the suspect had a makeshift flamethrower and tossed an incendiary device into the crowd, the FBI said in a statement.

The people apparently targeted in the attack were walking as part of a regularly scheduled weekly effort that Boulder police described as "peaceful."

Denver resident Brian Horwitz, who was eating lunch with family members nearby, encountered a man who was acting erratically and holding two containers that had red cloth hanging out of the end — which looked like "a molotov cocktail," Horwitz said.

The man was yelling anti-Jewish slurs, said Horwitz, 37, who posted videos of the scene on social media. After the attack, officials recovered 16 unused molotov cocktails, Boulder County District Attorney Michael Dougherty said in a news conference Monday.

Names of the victims were not released, but Boulder police identified four women and four men between the ages of 52 and 88 Sunday. Six were taken to Denver-area hospitals, and officials said two of the victims were airlifted for treatment at a burn unit.

Officials found four more victims who had less-severe injuries Monday but did not provide details. "The reason we didn't know about them until today was because their injuries, thankfully, were more minor in nature," Redfearn said in a news conference.

As of Monday afternoon, two victims remained hospitalized.

The participants were taking part in a regular event as part of Run for Their Lives, a global, pro-Israel group that hosts walk-run events to bring attention to the plight of Israeli hostages in Gaza, according to the group's website.

Chany Scheiner, co-director at Chabad Lubavitch of Boulder County, described himself as a friend of one of the victims to NBC affiliate KUSA and said the woman is a Holocaust survivor.

Scheiner said his friend has spoken at synagogues and schools about her background and the Holocaust from her perspective.

"She is passionate about standing up for good things, and she is an extremely exceptional person," Scheiner told the TV station. "Always a smile on her face. Her life wasn't easy, but she is just a bright light. And anybody who is her friend is a friend for life."

Soliman, who was born in Egypt, lives in Colorado Springs with his wife and five children, according to the complaint. One of his neighbors, Jimmy Prewitt, described him as a quiet family man.

He had been a driver for Uber since 2023, an Uber spokesperson said, and had met the ride-hailing company's numerous eligibility requirements — including passing a criminal and driving history background check and holding a valid Social Security number. The company had not received concerning feedback about Soliman while he was a driver, but has since moved to ban his account.

Soliman entered the United States on a B-2 tourist visa in August 2022, the Department of Homeland Security said in a statement. The visa expired in February 2023, department spokeswoman Tricia McLaughlin said, but Soliman applied for asylum in September 2022, according to the agency.

DHS did not respond to questions about how the asylum case has been adjudicated and where it stands. According to the complaint, Soliman told federal agents that he had waited until his daughter graduated to conduct Sunday's attack. He learned how to make molotov cocktails on YouTube and "specifically targeted the 'Zionist Group' that had gathered in Boulder, having learned about the group from an online search," the document states.

"He stated that he wanted to kill all Zionist people and wished they were all dead," a federal agent wrote in the complaint.

Witnesses reported that Soliman was heard shouting "Free Palestine" during the attack, authorities said.

Soliman faces charges in both federal and state courts — something Dougherty, the district attorney, said "has been done in other cases, most recently, the Club Q mass shooting down in Colorado Springs."

At the federal level, Soliman has been charged with a hate crime, which carries a maximum statutory sentence of life in prison.

On the state level, charging documents show that Soliman is facing 42 felonies, including 16 counts of attempted murder in the first degree. Eight of those counts are for attempted murder after deliberation; the other eight counts are for attempted murder with extreme indifference. He also been charged with two counts of use of an incendiary device and 16 counts of attempted use of an incendiary device.

If convicted on all charges and sentenced to the maximum, with counts run consecutively, he could face up to 624 years in state prison.

Local and federal officials denounced the attack, with some, including Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser (D), describing it as an apparent hate crime "given the group that was targeted," he said in a statement.

FBI leaders in Washington said they were treating the Boulder attack as an act of terrorism, and the Justice Department — which leads investigations into acts of violence driven by religious, racial or ethnic motivations — decried the attack as a "needless act of violence, which follows recent attacks against Jewish Americans."

Redfearn acknowledged in a news briefing that the attack was difficult for the Boulder community but encouraged resilience and unity.

"Boulder is not immune to tragedy, sadly, and I know a lot of people are scared right now and questioning how this happened and why," Redfearn said. "Boulder has recovered from acts of violence before, and we will again recover. I urge this community to come together. Now is not the time to be divisive."

Warren P. Strobel and Aaron Schaffer contributed to this report.

Suspect charged with hate crime, attempted murder after attack in Colorado

BOULDER FROM A1

the causes of the war in Gaza has left some U.S. Jews feeling more vulnerable.

"It's definitely not the same. Every Jew in America is feeling this and thinking about it differently. Many of us lived open, engaged active Jewish lives and never felt antisemitism as a threat in any meaningful way and I don't know anyone who thinks that now," said Hadar Susskind, president of the progressive advocacy group New Jewish Narrative.

Soliman yelled "Free Palestine" as he used a flamethrower and tossed an incendiary device into the crowd at a Colorado pedestrian mall, where the local chapter of a pro-Israeli group, Run for Their Lives, was hosting an event calling for the release of Israeli hostages in Gaza, law enforcement officials have said. Soliman learned about the group from an online search and specifically targeted them, according to court documents.

"No one should ever be subjected to violence of any kind, but our laws recognize that such violence is particularly pernicious when someone is targeted because of their race, religion or national origin," J. Bishop Grewell, acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Colorado, said at a news conference Monday. The maximum sentence for the federal hate crime charge is life in prison, he said.

In addition, Soliman is facing 42 felonies, including 16 counts of attempted murder in the first degree, according to Boulder District Attorney's Office.

Soliman is being held on a $10 million bond. He is represented by a public defender. The Colorado State Public Defender's office declined to comment or name Soliman's attorney.

Soliman, who is Egyptian, entered the U.S. on a B-2 tourist visa in August 2022, according to the Department of Homeland Security. He applied for asylum in September 2022 and his visa expired in February 2023, DHS Assistant Secretary Tricia McLaughlin said. DHS did not respond to further questions about the status of his asylum case.

In a Truth Social post, President Donald Trump said that the attack was "yet another example of why we must keep our Borders SECURE" — and called for the suspect's deportation.

Based on DHS's information, Soliman didn't have legal status but was also lawfully present in the U.S., said Muzaffar Chishti, a senior fellow at the Migration Policy Institute. "This is a semantics issue at some level," Chishti said. "He didn't have legal status, but he was not removable because he was an asylum applicant."

The Boulder attack took place on the eve of Shavuot, a two-day holiday that celebrates God giving the Torah to the Jewish people at Mount Sinai. It "was aimed against peaceful people who wished to express their solidarity with the hostages held by Hamas," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement, calling the incident a "vicious terror attack."

REBECCA SLEZAK/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

Twelve people who participated in a weekly event calling for the release of Israeli hostages held in Gaza were injured in the attack Sunday.

"Our laws recognize that such violence is particularly pernicious when someone is targeted because of their race, religion or national origin."

J. Bishop Grewell, acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Colorado

Authorities initially said there were eight victims — four men and four women — ranging from 52 to 88 years old. Two were still hospitalized Monday, authorities said. Four more victims with minor injuries were confirmed Monday afternoon, bringing the injured toll to 12. Their identities and details about their conditions have not been released.

Authorities detained Soliman near a black plastic container filled with more than a dozen unlit molotov cocktails — glass wine carafe bottles and jars holding 87-octane gasoline with red rags hanging out of the bottles. Grewell, the U.S. attorney, said that when interviewed by law enforcement, Soliman said he had tried to purchase a firearm, "but resorted to the molotov cocktails when he could not purchase them because he was not a legal citizen."

Soliman lives in Colorado Springs with his wife and five children, according to the complaint. His home sits on a quiet street on the east end of the city, in a four-unit stucco apartment complex.

On Monday morning, neighbors closed their shades as television media vehicles parked outside.

Jimmy Prewitt, 46, lives in the neighborhood and said he knew Soliman to be a quiet family man. "My daughter and their kids played together," he said. "… We spoke like regular neighbors."

David Costello practices Messianic Judaism and along with his family moved from Illinois to Colorado Springs last month. They settled across the street from Soliman. He said Soliman's wife brought cupcakes to welcome them to the neighborhood; his kids said hello to Soliman's kids.

"My personal opinion is to not be intimidated by bullies. If there is someone here that is dangerous to me, the worst thing I can do is give in," Costello said.

Soliman worked as an independent contractor for Uber, driving passengers for the last nine months, an Uber spokeswoman said in a statement Monday. Soliman started with the company in spring 2023 as a food delivery driver. The spokeswoman said that "Soliman met all the requirements in accordance with Colorado state law" and that he "had no concerning feedback while driving on the Uber platform." His driver's account has been banned, the statement said.

Lisa Effress, a documentary filmmaker in Boulder, said she was eating lunch Sunday with her teenage daughter a block away from the Run for Their Lives event and planned to join the group at the end of its weekly walk. Every Sunday, Effress said the walkers start on the west side of town and walk east, carrying a banner that says, "Bring them home now."

They carry posters or printouts with the faces of Israeli hostages being held in Gaza and end their walk in front of the historic Boulder courthouse, with a reading of the names of the hostages and a singing of Hatikvah — the Israeli national anthem — which translates to "The Hope."

A little after 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, she saw first responders racing down Pearl Street. Her gut told her it involved the march. She told her teenage daughter to stay in the car and ran to the scene.

"I saw there were a lot of people that were partially clothed, and found out minutes later that people had taken their clothes off to try and put the fire out on the burning victims," Effress said.

Roman Stubbs reported from Colorado Springs, Boorstein from Washington. Praveena Somasundaram, Emily Wax-Thibodeaux, Jeremy Roebuck, Marianne LeVine, and Warren P. Strobel in Washington; Niha Masih in Seoul; and Annabell Tismit in London contributed to this report.

Fetterman praises Trump on Iran, distances himself from fellow Democrats

BY LIZ GOODWIN

BOSTON — Sen. John Fetterman (D-Pennsylvania) continued to distance himself from his fellow Democrats on Monday, telling an audience that he has lost support from liberals for his belief that border security is important and his support for Israel.

Speaking with his fellow senator from Pennsylvania, Dave McCormick, a Republican, at an event celebrating bipartisanship, Fetterman praised President Donald Trump for removing the United States from the Obama-era Iran nuclear deal, moving the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem and pushing for an agreement between Japanese-owned Nippon Steel and U.S. Steel. He said his party had make a "mistake" on border security.

"I'm really the only one left in the Democratic caucus talking about these kinds of things," Fetterman said of his Iran concerns, as McCormick nodded along next to him.

The comments point to Fetterman's growing alienation from his own party, which is a challenge for Democrats as they attempt to form a cohesive opposition to Trump and seek to regain the Senate majority in the 2026 midterm elections. Republicans are openly courting Fetterman to join their 53-seat majority, even though the senator from Pennsylvania has said repeatedly he would never join the GOP.

The two purple-state senators from opposing parties found little they disagreed on at the Edward Kennedy Institute. The discussion, moderated by Fox News's Shannon Bream, took place in a reproduction of the U.S. Senate floor — which Fetterman rarely sets foot in because of his violation of the chamber's dress code. (Senators not conforming to the dress code can vote from the chamber's doorstep.)

Fetterman blamed recent coverage questioning his frequent missed votes and committee hearings on what he called "left" media that he said disagrees with his stances on immigration and Israel.

He said he misses "throwaway procedural" votes scheduled on Monday evenings to spend more time with his three children and that he has not missed as many votes as Sens. Bernie Sanders (I-Vermont) and Patty Murray (D-Washington). (Murray missed votes while caring for her hospitalized husband.) Fetterman, who polls show is popular in Pennsylvania, said he receives positive feedback from liberal voters.

"I spent two days in Cambridge — one of the most liberal and progressive areas — and it's been all uniform positive reaction walking around," Fetterman said of the Boston suburb.

He added that McCormick asked his permission to defend him publicly from the criticism, as he was worried defense from a Republican might not help him. "He actually asked me. It's like: 'Is it okay to defend you? I don't want that to create more political problems,' " Fetterman said.

McCormick, a former hedge fund CEO who unseated Democrat Bob Casey in November, praised Fetterman for showing "moral clarity" on the issue of Israel. After the Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas attack, the nation began a punishing counterattack in Gaza, which is ongoing and has resulted in tens of thousands of deaths and widespread hunger.

Both men condemned an attack in Boulder, Colorado, on Sunday in which authorities said a man threw molotov cocktails and yelled, "Free Palestine" at a group of peaceful protesters gathered to honor the Israeli hostages. Eight were injured. "What happened yesterday in Boulder — it's astonishing that the kinds of rank antisemitism [are] out of control," Fetterman said.

Fetterman linked the attack to protests that unfolded across college campuses last year, saying antisemitism is "rampant" across universities and claiming that they were not protected by free speech protections.

"I can't imagine how people in the Jewish community feel," Fetterman said. "They're exhausted. … They're living under this constant kind of criticism."

Fetterman said Trump "did the right thing" when he withdrew from the Iran deal. At the time, Fetterman said he supported that deal. He also urged Trump to abandon negotiations with Iran and allow Israel to strike its nuclear facilities, which he argued would "transform the region."

But McCormick and Fetterman broke on one issue — the Trump-branded One Big Beautiful Bill extending tax cuts and pouring money into building detention centers for migrants that the Senate is now taking up after the House passed it last month. McCormick said he supports the legislation but wants to find more cost savings in it.

"We're going to try to find ways to further reduce the cost of government," McCormick said, acknowledging that both parties have piled onto the federal debt in recent decades.

Fetterman said he can't support the bill because of its cuts to Medicaid and the food aid program called SNAP. "I don't think I'll ever be in a position to support cutting Medicaid," he said.

But he made a promise about the debate going forward. "I'm not going to call people names or call people fascist or [say] 'You want people to die,'" Fetterman said. "I refuse to engage in that kind of rhetoric."

The Washington Post
METRO
TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025

PETE KIEHART/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Kimane "Kat" Jones, left, and Joseph Nickens pick up trash Monday before a news conference on the opening of Mamie "Peanut" Johnson Plaza in D.C.

A healthier intersection

BY MEAGAN FLYNN

District's 'Dave Thomas Circle' has been replaced by nuggets of pedestrian-friendly spaces

D.C.'s "Dave Thomas Circle" — the intersection where a Wendy's restaurant once notoriously sat in the middle of multiple lanes of traffic, forcing drivers to chart a confusing course around it — is no more.

On Monday at the intersection of New York and Florida avenues that locals mockingly named after the Wendy's founder, Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D) introduced the renamed Mamie "Peanut" Johnson Plaza, honoring the pioneering female pitcher in the Negro leagues and longtime Northeast Washington resident.

The plaza — and a small constellation of pedestrian spaces in Northeast — has replaced the fast-food island, making traversing the nightmarish traffic expanse a bit more pleasant for pedestrians and, with more straightforward traffic patterns, safer for vehicles. At least, that's what city officials hope.

"It is a transformation that is remarkable," Bowser said, flanked by transportation workers wearing yellow vests and cheering with green pompoms. "We turned chaos into something that people can navigate and understand."

The park spaces along Florida Avenue are too small for baseball. But they do include a jungle gym, bright orange tables with chairs for lunchers and park benches throughout. On the surrounding roads, the District Department of Transportation reconfigured the traffic patterns to make them more efficient, while adding protected bike lanes on Florida Avenue and First Street. Two-way traffic has been restored on Florida Avenue, while First Street is now freshly open to two-way traffic — changes that are expected to ease some of the former intersection's bewildering congestion.

Drivers will still have to go through multiple traffic lights to get through the intersection. Still, Department of Transportation Director Sharon Kershbaum said she is expecting a much smoother experience now that construction is complete and all lanes are open.

SEE PLAZA ON B2

Area synagogues to see greater police presence

Some agencies say they had stepped up patrols before attack in Colorado

BY MARTIN WEIL AND DAN MORSE

Fairfax County police, responding to Sunday's attack on a Jewish gathering in Boulder, Colorado, said they will increase patrols around synagogues and other places of worship, and D.C. and Montgomery County police said they would continue an already heightened response to a recent act of apparent antisemitic violence in the District.

At least eight people were injured in Boulder when a man threw molotov cocktails into a crowd and yelled "Free Palestine" before he was taken into custody, police said. The attack happened during a peaceful weekly event organized by a global pro-Israel group in downtown Boulder to call for the release of hostages held in Gaza by Hamas, the FBI said.

The three Washington-area law enforcement agencies said they were monitoring the events in Colorado but had no evidence of any specific threat here. Nevertheless, they said, they were taking protective steps.

"The safety of our faith-based institutions" continues "to be paramount," Fairfax County police said.

Citing the "targeted attack" in Boulder, the Fairfax department said it was "enhancing our patrols and visibility around our synagogues and all places of worship."

Montgomery County police joined the other agencies in expressing sadness and extending condolences over the Boulder attack and said that even before Sunday, they had "increased police presence throughout the county."

That was an apparent reference to the announcement of stepped-up patrols after the fatal shooting last month outside the Capital Jewish Museum of a couple who worked for the Israeli Embassy. The gunman chanted "Free, free Palestine" after the shooting, according to authorities.

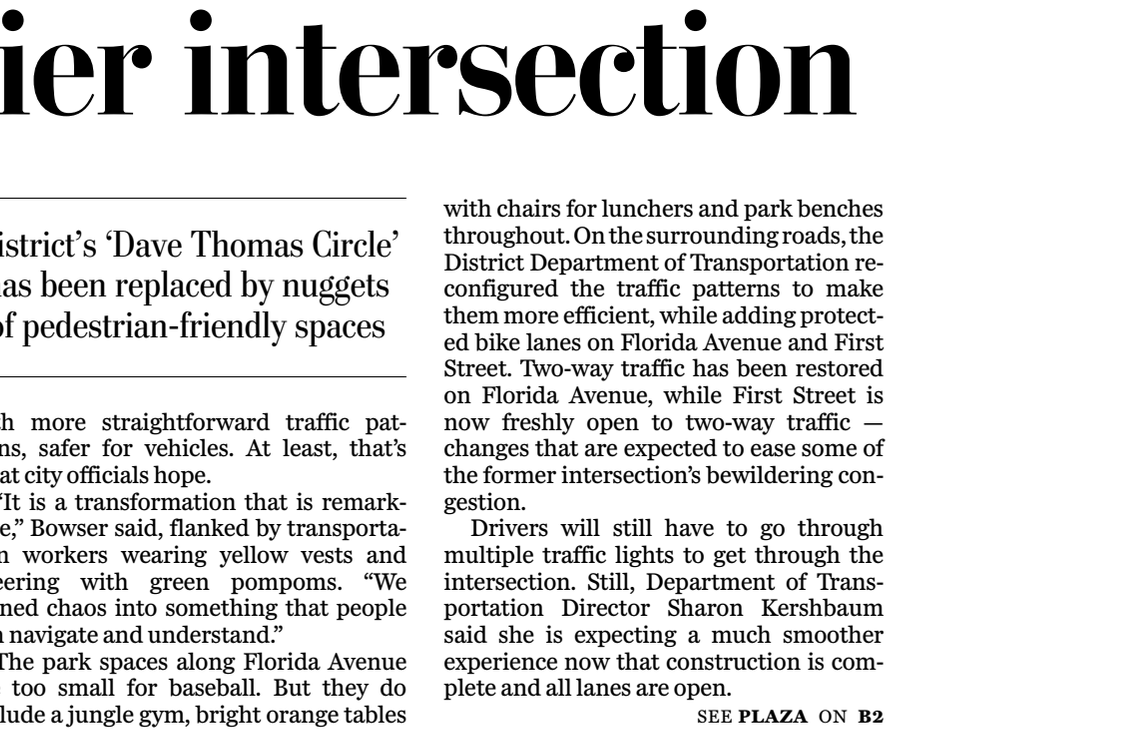
After those killings, Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich (D) said on May 22 that police had increased visibility and patrols "near faith-based institutions."

In response to the museum shootings, D.C. Police Chief Pamela A. Smith said officers would be increasingly present around faith-based institutions, including "places like the D.C. Jewish Community Center."

In their statement Sunday, D.C. police said they have "maintained an increased presence at religious institutions across the city with particular attention to Jewish institutions."

In the wake of the Boulder attack, D.C. police said they were "actively coordinating" with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

SEE PATROLS ON B3



MATT MCCLAIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

D.C. Attorney General Brian Schwalb, seen in 2023, that year sued 14 of the city's "largest landlords."

D.C. settles with property management firm

BY MICHAEL BRICE-SADDLER

WC Smith to pay over $1M in lawsuit alleging rent inflation conspiracy

D.C. Attorney General Brian Schwalb (D) announced a settlement of more than $1 million in a lawsuit alleging that multiple property management companies conspired to inflate rents in 50,000 apartments in the city through the RealPage company's pricing software.

Several lawsuits have been filed around the country in the past two years against RealPage, the maker of widely used property management software, alleging that the company collects landlords' private data to undermine competition and set higher rents.

Schwalb's office, which sued RealPage and 14 of the city's "largest landlords" in 2023, said that the William C. Smith and Co. property management firm is the first defendant in the lawsuit to reach a settlement with the city. WC Smith, which owns more than 9,000 of the affected units, according to Schwalb's office, has denied that it "violated any law or engaged in any anticompetitive conduct," according to the settlement.

"We have consistently asserted that we did not participate in any of the activities alleged by the Office of Attorney General in the RealPage litigation. We now have

SEE SETTLEMENT ON B2

20 slain in the District in May

CHIEF TROUBLED BY SPIKE IN SHOOTINGS

Year-to-date homicide count hit 69 last month

BY EMMA UBER AND ELLIE SILVERMAN

A 19-year-old man about to start online college courses was gunned down on a Southeast Washington street; another man, 31, attending an elementary school track meet, was fatally shot on a Northeast sidewalk; and another, 59, eating dinner in his Northwest apartment, was hit by a stray bullet that came through a window. His mother walked in and found him slumped at a table, dead.

They were among 20 people slain in the District in May, all by gunfire, in a surge of violence that brought the city's 2025 homicide toll to 69 as of Saturday, the last day of the month. After a long stretch in which the pace of killings in D.C. was lower than in 2024, the spike in violence last month meant that the body count as of May 31 nearly equaled the District's 73 homicides in the first five months of last year.

"We are seeing far too many interpersonal conflicts being settled with guns," D.C. Police Chief Pamela A. Smith said at a news conference in late May, echoing a refrain heard from many of her predecessors during periods of increased shootings in the past. "We're asking: Put the guns down. This is not the way to resolve disputes."

The May violence, including 18 killing in 18 days, also claimed the lives of Israeli Embassy employees Yaron Lischinsky, 30, and Sarah Lynn Milgrim, 26, who were about to become engaged. Moments after leaving a reception at the Capital Jewish Museum, authorities and witnesses said, the two were shot by a gunman who shouted, "Free Palestine!"

The surge in homicides came as the District readied to host WorldPride, the largest LGBTQ+ festival in the world, which organizers anticipate will bring millions of visitors to the nation's capital. In addition, a huge military parade and related events are scheduled for June 14 to commemorate the U.S. Army's 250th anniversary.

"D.C. is no stranger to high-profile gatherings, and we have a proven track record of hosting them safely and successfully, and this year will be no different," Smith said. "But we all know that public safety is a shared responsibility."

Overall, violent crime was down 22 percent citywide compared with last year, when it was already at a 30-year-low, according to D.C. police and Justice Department data. Last year and this year represent a reversal

SEE HOMICIDES ON B3

TODAY'S WEATHER

8 a.m.	Noon	4 p.m.	8 p.m.
62°	76°	83°	76°

High today at approx. 4 p.m.: **83°**
Precip: **0%** Wind: **SW 4-8 mph**

For weather news, go to B6

OBITUARIES

Ronnie Dugger, 95, was a maverick leader of liberal journalism in Texas. B4

THE OPTIMIST

For feel-good stories, visit washingtonpost.com/inspired-life.

RETROPOLIS

At washingtonpost.com/retropolis, find stories of the past, rediscovered.

Fries give way to fresh greenery at notorious intersection

PLAZA FROM **B1**

"You're not going to have the gridlock that you had before," said Kershbaum, who was at Monday's ribbon-cutting ceremony. She highlighted a noticeable lack of honking, once the soundtrack to the intersection.

The $41 million infrastructure upgrade at one of D.C.'s most hazardous intersections was a long time coming.

The intersection has been one of the city's busiest and most dangerous for over a century, an odd corner of the original Washington grid. Before the infamous Wendy's, the triangle of land in the middle of the intersection housed a florist's shop, a rail stop and a gas station.

Officials had been trying to ease the headaches it caused for years.

In 1996, Mayor Marion Barry proposed adding both a tunnel to Interstate 395 and a new cross-city rail line to divert Maryland commuters trucking down New York Avenue from the circle. But with an estimated $2 billion cost, that project never happened. A 2010 redesign reduced injuries by slowing cars down. But a different kind of problem emerged from that change: Crashes increased overall, particularly the sideswipes and rear-end collisions associated with confused drivers. For years, Metro buses had to detour around the circle to avoid a too-sharp turn.

Then came a new plan from the city government and D.C. Council member Kenyan R. McDuffie: Take over the Wendy's.

D.C. purchased the Wendy's property through a 2021 eminent domain proceeding, what was the precursor to the city's plan to bulldoze the restaurant and reconfigure the entire intersection. The move divided some locals: While hated by many, the Wendy's intersection was also a beloved oddity of old D.C.

"If you spent some time in this city as a teenager, you probably grew up stopping at this Wendy's to grab a Frosty or a burger or a chicken sandwich, as I did on many occasions," said McDuffie, now an independent at-large member of the council.

But safety had to be the priority, he said — the Wendy's had to go.

"It was no small feat, council, when we said we wanted to buy Wendy's," Bowser said. "By the way, they didn't want to sell it to us, okay? This intersection was pretty good for them. But they worked with us in the end, and we've been able to bring you this safe transportation facility and beautiful community."

The intersection nonetheless remains a connecting point for three wide, busy corridors, the kind of road where pedestrians are most likely to be injured or killed.

The plaza was named after Johnson over four other options in a neighborhood survey. The 5-foot-4 Johnson, nicknamed "Peanut" after one batter commented on her diminutive appearance on the mound, made history as the first and only woman to pitch in the Negro leagues during segregation. After an all-White women's baseball league rejected her, she was recruited to the Negro leagues in 1953 after a scout spotted her fierce right arm while she was playing for a team sponsored by D.C.'s St. Cyprian Catholic Church. A multipurpose field in Rosedale was named in her honor in 2013. Johnson died four years later.

"I worked just as hard as the fellas," she told The Washington Post in 1999. "I pitched nine innings just like everybody else."

Maura Brophy, president and CEO of the NoMa Business Improvement District, said the park space will include an installation telling Johnson's story. The BID will also be in charge of programming, possibly including art, performances and other types of events.

After cutting the ceremonial ribbon with extra-large scissors, Kershbaum gave Bowser a tour of the park space. Bowser sat on a bench with her and McDuffie. The mayor examined the new mulched landscaping and the newly painted green bike lane while waiting for the light to change with a posse of staff, photographers and journalists.

Just then, a bicyclist whizzed through the intersection. "Right on cue," someone said.

"Is he following the light?" asked another.

Rachel Weiner contributed to this report.

JAHI CHIKWENDIU/THE WASHINGTON POST

A 2017 view of "Dave Thomas Circle" in Northeast Washington, where a Wendy's notoriously sat at the intersection of Florida and New York avenues.

PETE KIEHART/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D) tours Mamie "Peanut" Johnson Plaza, which replaced the former fast-food island, on Monday. The city purchased the property through an eminent domain proceeding.

KATHERINE FREY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Mamie "Peanut" Johnson was a pioneering female pitcher in the Negro leagues.

"It is a transformation that is remarkable. We turned chaos into something that people can navigate and understand."

D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D), during an event to introduce Mamie "Peanut" Johnson Plaza in Northeast Washington

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WC Smith to pay District over $1M

SETTLEMENT FROM **B1**

been dismissed from this case without admission of the allegations or acceptance of liability," John Ritz, president of WC Smith, said in a statement. "By settling this matter, we avoid considerable and unnecessary legal expenses and can return our focus to creating thriving communities for the residents of Washington, D.C. — which has been our mission for more than 50 years."

A spokesperson for RealPage did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The alleged actions by the Texas-based company and the property management companies that use its software have garnered increased attention in multiple states after numerous complaints from tenants about their escalating rents.

In Maryland, Attorney General Anthony G. Brown (D) sued RealPage and six major landlords in the state earlier this year, alleging that RealPage products "use nonpublic, competitively sensitive data — for example, the number of potential tenant visits to a property — to estimate supply and demand, and then generate a 'price' to charge that maximizes the landlord's revenue." A bill that would have barred landlords from using RealPage software failed to advance to a vote.

In its lawsuit, Schwalb's office alleged that RealPage offers "revenue management" software to real estate owners and property managers that relies on competitive, nonpublic pricing data to estimate supply and demand for rental units. RealPage uses that data to generate "an artificially inflated rental price that maximizes the landlord's revenue," according to his office.

More than 30 percent of D.C.'s apartments in buildings with five or more units, and about 60 percent of apartments in buildings with 50 units or more, are priced using RealPage's software, Schwalb's office said, leaving many residents "with no choice but to pay RealPage's inflated rents."

Monday's settlement requires WC Smith to pay just over $1 million to the District in civil penalties, money for affected residents and legal fees. Under the settlement's terms, WC Smith is prohibited from using revenue management software that relies on nonpublic data to set rent prices. The company must also refrain from promoting this software to other firms.

"Rents in DC are already sky-high, and amidst this housing affordability crisis, many of the District's top landlords operated as a housing cartel — illegally colluding to push rents even higher," Schwalb said in a statement. "I commend W.C. Smith for putting an end to its anticompetitive practices and cooperating with my office to reach this agreement."

"We will continue working to hold RealPage and the remaining landlords accountable," he added.

RealPage has been the subject of lawsuits in several jurisdictions after a ProPublica investigation found that the company's software may have led to illegal rent increases. In an amended antitrust lawsuit filed in January, Illinois and Massachusetts joined eight other states and the Justice Department in alleging that RealPage coordinated with six property management firms to raise rents.

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S0108 3x1

District's homicide total hit 69 in May

HOMICIDES FROM **B1**

from 2023, which saw a generational spike in violence.

In a recent Washington Post-Schar School poll, half of D.C. residents said crime is an "extremely serious" or "very serious" problem in the city, but that was down from 65 percent last year and 56 percent in 2023. In March, President Donald Trump signed an executive order establishing a task force on crime prevention and maximizing immigration enforcement in the District after repeatedly criticizing the city's handling of public safety.

Jay Brown, an activist who lives in Ward 7 and runs a nonprofit counseling program called Community Shoulders, said Smith is minimizing the concerns of the communities most affected by violence by attributing the shootings to "interpersonal disputes" — as though they were isolated incidents rather than evidence of a broader, deeper problem plaguing the city.

And while the killings of Milgrim and Lischinsky sparked outrage around the world, Brown said, it is frustrating to him and others that everyday gun violence in the District, which tears apart families and communities, rarely receives wide or sustained attention.

"You don't get that from when these things happen across the river," Brown said, referring to poor neighborhoods east of the Anacostia River. "That's the message I hear, like, don't concern yourself with this. … These acts of violence are not a concern for the public."

Kian-Wayne Magruder, 31, of Temple Hills, Maryland, went to the D.C. Interscholastic Athletic Association's elementary school track and field championships on May 20 to cheer on his girlfriend's son — and was fatally shot just steps from where hundreds of children were sitting in bleachers.

Magruder was walking near the city's former Spingarn High School, where the competition was being held, when three men jumped out of a car just before 2 p.m. and at least one of them opened fire, Smith said at a news conference. The attackers fled, and the vehicle they used was later found in flames in the Fort Lincoln neighborhood. There have been no arrests in the shooting.

Magruder's mother, LaKia Magruder, remembered her son as "an involved father of two beautiful children" and a true "family man" who lived a simple life. "My son worked, worked out and spent time with his family," she said. "He always had a smile for you and a positive word." He was an electrician apprentice, she said, but his true passion was physical fitness. She said he was building a career as a personal trainer.

"Kian-Wayne was my only child," his mother said. "He will definitely be missed by his family near and far. We must stop the senseless killings that continue to devastate our Black communities. Every life lost is a wound to our families, our neighborhoods and our future. The pain is real, the grief is deep and the cycle of violence must end."

Jamar Jackson, 19, the youngest of five sons, was fatally shot at about 10:20 p.m. on May 23 in the 4200 block of Fourth Street SE. The shooting also killed 16-year-old Royell Walker and injured a 14-year-old boy, police said. The shooting remains under investigation.

Jackson liked to take care of everyone else, his mother, brothers and friends said. He encouraged one of his brothers to stay positive after he lost a job, and he motivated a friend to study for his driver's license test. One of his brothers said Jackson was a favorite uncle to his many nieces and nephews, always giving in when they asked for ice cream, candy and other treats.

"He wanted the best for everybody," said his mother, Mesha Jackson. "I miss my baby. I want my child back."

He was dating his high school girlfriend, JaNya Randolph, 20, who said Jackson kept encouraging her to dream big about what she wanted to do with her life. They went to prom together, and he wore an orange tie to match her dress, she said. Their three-year anniversary would have been Aug. 13. She said he would have bought her flowers, as in past years.

He pushed himself, too. His mother said he was about to start online college courses in information technology. Randolph said Jackson hoped to become an entrepreneur with his own clothing brand.

"Jamar had a lot of plans," she said.

On the night of May 25, Jose Carcamo, 59, was eating dinner at a table in his bedroom when gunshots sounded in an alley behind his apartment building in the 1500 block of Ogden Street NW, police and family members said.

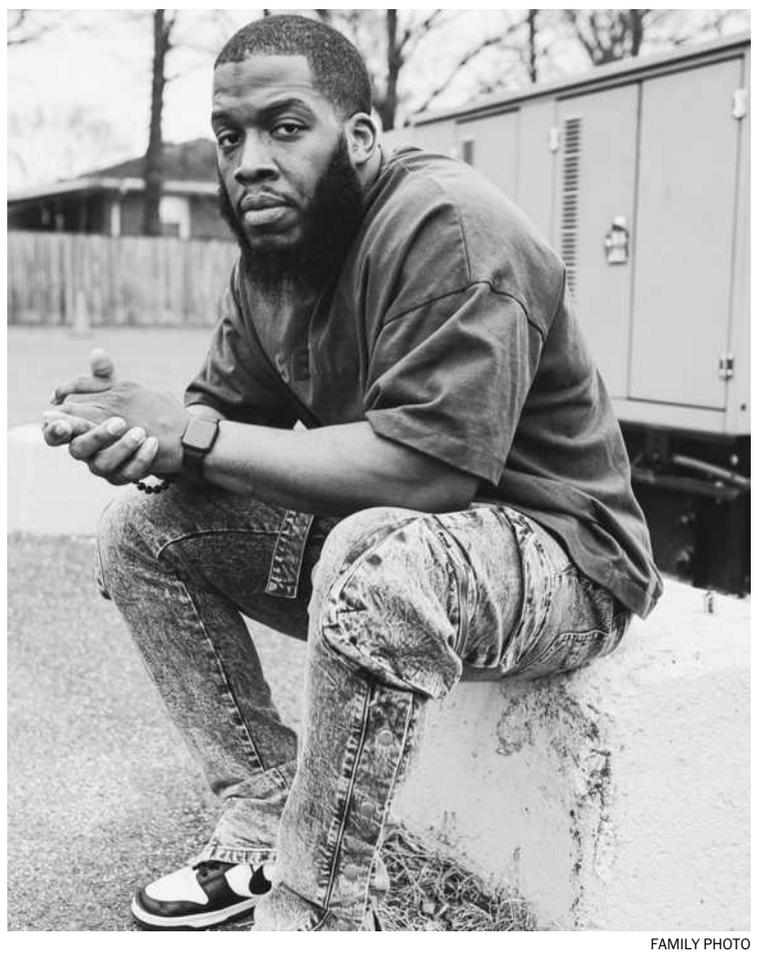
Carcamo's mother was visiting from El Salvador for Mother's Day, said his cousin Jose Romero Carcamo. The mother, sitting in the living room, heard the gunshots and walked into the bedroom, where she found her son dead at the table.

The cousin said Carcamo worked in construction and sent money back to El Salvador to support relatives there. He was planning to retire in five years and return to his native country, where he had been building a home for himself and his mother.

"He never had any problems," the cousin said. "He is working all his life for his mom. We don't have any answers. We don't know why, we don't know how, we don't know anything."

RICKY CARIOTI/THE WASHINGTON POST

D.C. Police Chief Pamela A. Smith, seen in April, said that "we are seeing far too many interpersonal conflicts being settled with guns."



FAMILY PHOTO

FAMILY PHOTO

ABOVE: Jamar Jackson, 19, was fatally shot May 23 in Southeast Washington. He was about to start online college courses, his mother said. LEFT: Kian-Wayne Magruder, 31, was shot dead May 20 while attending an elementary school track and field meet in Northeast Washington.

MARK MAKELA/REUTERS

Sam King crosses the street after affixing an Israeli flag to a traffic pole in Boulder, Colorado, on Sunday.

D.C.-area police react to attack in Colorado

PATROLS FROM **B1**

For several years now, the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington has run a service called JShield, which offers risk assessments to Jewish organizations free of charge. JShield, which has a full-time staff of five people, also offers security training and help for groups seeking security grants.

Gil Preuss, chief executive of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, said the attack in Boulder further confirmed the need for Jewish organizations to protect themselves.

"Every Jewish organization that we work with is reviewing its security plans," he said.

It's not just about hardening physical buildings, he said. It's also about thinking through how to plan, publicize and run community events. One of his recommendations: When announcing an event, provide only a general location — such as downtown Washington, Rockville or Fairfax County. Only when a person registers, and provides a real name and email address, should the exact location be provided.

Every kind of Jewish group should be taking such precautions, he said, including synagogues, Jewish community centers and college organizations. As practical and sensible as the precautions are, Preuss said, the fact that they have to be taken is hardly lost on him.

"It's horrible. The idea that these are the times we live in now, it's horrible," he said. "When I walk into my own synagogue, I have to go through a metal detector."

At the same time, he knows the possible harm of taking security measures to the extreme.

"Our whole idea as Jewish organizations is to bring people in, to be welcoming, to build communities," he said. "We can't become fortresses."

The Guide to Offers
The Washington Post

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OBITUARIES

RONNIE DUGGER, 95

Crusading liberal journalist at the Texas Observer

BY HARRISON SMITH

YOICHI OKAMOTO/LBJ PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

Ronnie Dugger, left, interviews President Lyndon B. Johnson in the 1960s. Mr. Dugger was the founding editor and longtime publisher of Texas's flagship progressive journal.

Ronnie Dugger, a Texas journalist who took on political corruption, corporate skulduggery and institutional bigotry while leading the state's flagship progressive journal, the small but feisty Texas Observer, died May 27 at an assisted-living facility in Austin. He was 95.

The cause was complications from Alzheimer's disease, said his daughter, Celia W. Dugger, the health and science editor at the New York Times.

Mr. Dugger was a maverick leader of liberal journalism in Texas, known for directing news coverage targeting racism, hypocrisy and injustice wherever he found it, from the Capitol in Austin to the Piney Woods of East Texas. As the founding editor and longtime publisher of the Texas Observer, he invigorated coverage of civil rights and politics in the state, taking on stories that were routinely ignored by the major dailies in Dallas, Houston and San Antonio, where Mr. Dugger was raised.

"He really was one of the great muckrakers in Texas journalistic history," said Don Carleton, the leader of the University of Texas at Austin's Dolph Briscoe Center for American History. Ann Richards, the former Texas governor, once hailed him as "an enduring voice on the left, someone who has spoken out when others were afraid to."

When Mr. Dugger put out the Observer's first issue, in December 1954, state politics was dominated by the Democratic Party's conservative wing. Texas's major newspapers had a similar right-leaning tilt; in Mr. Dugger's view, they "were right-wing racist rotgut almost without exception."

The Observer was intended as a corrective: liberal in its outlook, independent in its reporting. "We will serve no group or party," Mr. Dugger wrote in the inaugural issue, spelling out the journal's mission, "but will hew hard to the truth as we find it and the right as we see it."

Crisscrossing the state in a run-down 1948 Chevrolet, he pursued stories in small towns such as Mayflower, a Black community near the Louisiana border. Acting on a tip from a subscriber, he arrived there one day in 1955, weeks after two White men opened fire while driving down the street. The men had shot at a school bus, school and random homes, nearly striking a woman who was kneeling by her bed in prayer. At a cafe where Black teenagers were dancing, they shot and wounded two girls and killed a 16-year-old boy, John Earl Reese.

"There had been similar shootings in Mayflower before this, and nothing had been done — except some Negroes had been fined," Mr. Dugger recalled in a 1964 essay.

Digging into the case, he interviewed residents, found bullets at the scene and took a photo of Reese's body that he published on the Observer's front page. His efforts generated national publicity, and a subsequent investigation by the Texas Rangers led to the arrests of two young men who confessed to the killings, saying that they had been angered by a recently passed bond program to build a school for Black children.

One of the men was never tried. The other, Perry Dean Ross, pleaded guilty to murder. Addressing the jury, which was all-White, his lawyer used a racial slur: "This boy wanted to scare somebody and keep the [Black children] and the Whites from going to school together — now that's the truth about it." Ross was set free with a five-year suspended sentence.

Mr. Dugger reported on the trial and later told the story of Charles Elbert Williams, a 20-year-old Black sharecropper who was convicted of raping a White woman and sentenced to death in the electric chair. He recounted how Williams had insisted on his innocence, saying he had an alibi, and traveled to Huntsville, Texas, to report on the man's execution in 1961.

His report, which was published as the legislature considered a bill to ban capital punishment, offered readers a rare glimpse into how executions actually played out. "The sound of breath sucked through teeth, he is lifted against the straps, his fists clench, his clothes balloon from his limbs; there is a distant sparkling sound," Mr. Dugger wrote. "His body is tensed against the straps for a very long time, a scene of terror. … The power goes off. … It is 2 after 12."

As editor and then as publisher, Mr. Dugger nurtured the work of writers including Willie Morris, Molly Ivins and Kaye Northcott, all of whom succeeded him as editor.

The journal has evolved from a weekly newspaper to a bimonthly magazine, published by a nonprofit organization. And while its print circulation has been modest for decades, its audience has included state lawmakers as well as fellow journalists, who have used Observer stories as inspiration for their own work, Carleton said. In a phone interview, he recalled how Richard Morehead, the longtime Austin bureau chief for the Dallas Morning News, once told him that the Observer had forced some of the state's urban newspapers to take a more aggressive approach to covering the legislature.

"The Texas Observer has been the mouse that roared, a mom-and-pop haven of common sense, progressive politics and rapier reporting," Washington Post political correspondent Dan Balz wrote in 1981, calling the publication "the scourge of a state legislature" that, he wrote, often acted with "disregard for the citizenry."

Mr. Dugger served as the Observer's editor until 1961 and as publisher until 1994. He also wrote biographies of Lyndon B. Johnson and Ronald Reagan; contributed articles to The Post, Harper's, the Nation, the New Yorker and the New York Times; and campaigned on behalf of liberal causes, advocating national health insurance and warning about the perils of nuclear proliferation.

When he was awarded a George Polk Award for career achievement in journalism, he spent part of his 2012 acceptance speech discussing the threat posed by nuclear arms, which he described as "weapons of mass murder." Interviewed by the Austin American-Statesman later that year, he said: "I think there are two subjects that really ought to worry us. That is: The future of our own country, as citizens. And the extinction of the human race, by ourselves."

The younger of two sons, Ronald Edward Dugger was born in Chicago on April 16, 1930. He grew up in San Antonio, where his mother, a Scottish immigrant, worked as a sales clerk at a department store. His father was a bookkeeper.

As a teenager during World War II, Mr. Dugger worked as a sportswriter for the local Express-News. He went on to study government and economics at the University of Texas at Austin, where he edited the student newspaper and received a bachelor's degree in 1950.

Mr. Dugger did graduate work at the University of Oxford in England and then at the University of Texas, where in April 1954 he made headlines for spearheading a student petition targeting the Red Scare tactics of Sen. Joseph McCarthy. The petition drew newspaper coverage around the state, elevating Mr. Dugger's profile among Texas liberals only months before he was tapped to lead the Observer.

As he told it, he had been preparing to leave Austin for the Gulf of Mexico, where he planned to work on a fishing boat and start writing a novel, when he got the call that changed his life. A group of wealthy liberals was launching a political journal and needed an editor, he was told. Would he take the job?

Mr. Dugger accepted after securing a promise of complete editorial independence, and plunged into the job with help from his first wife, the former Jean Williams. "Every time I had a hesitation whether to go too far editorially, she would always say, 'Go,'" he recalled in an essay. "So in a way, we were co-editors."

The marriage ended in divorce. In 1982, Mr. Dugger married Patricia Blake, a Time magazine editor, with whom he lived in Massachusetts and New York City. He returned to Austin after her death in 2010. In addition to his daughter, Celia, from his first marriage, survivors include a son, Gary Dugger, also from his first marriage, and six grandchildren.

After getting the Observer off the ground, Mr. Dugger wrote books including "Dark Star" (1967), a profile of Claude Eatherly, the reconnaissance pilot whose weather report paved the way for the Enola Gay to drop the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. Mr. Dugger's follow-up, "Our Invaded Universities" (1974), examined the efforts of corporations and politicians to shape the curriculum and culture of the University of Texas and other schools.

In "The Politician: The Life and Times of Lyndon Johnson" (1982), he offered a critical portrait of the Senate majority leader and 36th president, whom he described as "volcanic and cold, vicious and generous."

"Reading it is like being locked in a room alone with Lyndon Johnson," author Aaron Latham wrote in a review for the New York Times. "The book preaches at you, it is sometimes outrageous, but it twists your arm and makes you keep on reading."

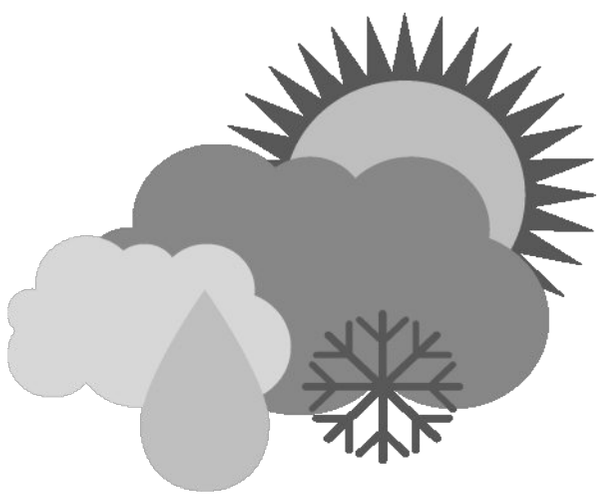
Mr. Dugger later drew on hundreds of previously unpublished radio commentaries for his book "On Reagan" (1983), which argued that Reagan, far from being a moderate, was a "dogged right-wing ideologue."

In 1996, he launched the Alliance for Democracy, a grassroots organization that says it aims "to create true democracy" while ending "corporate domination of politics, economics, and media." Mr. Dugger saw it as a natural extension of his work as a journalist.

"I never believed that because you were a reporter you had to neuter yourself," he told the Los Angeles Times. "I've always taken stands on issues and never allowed a false objectivity to censor me. I'll be damned if anybody tells me what I can or can't do."

FAMILY PHOTO

Mr. Dugger, seen at his family's home in Austin in 2019, was known for targeting racism, hypocrisy and injustice wherever he found it.



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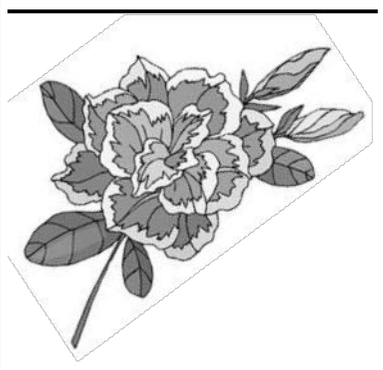
"Kofi" HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
We love and miss you.
Always and forever in our hearts,
Your Family

DEATH NOTICE

MCMILLAN

JOHN D. MCMILLAN (Age 86)
Entered eternity peacefully on May 20, 2025. Beloved husband of the late Alberta McMillan. He is survived by two devoted sons, Delbert and Demetrius McMillan; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; two sisters, several nieces, nephews, and a host of other cherished relatives and friends. A faithful member for 60 plus years of Upper Room Baptist Church; he served as past president of usher board, men's ministry, outreach programs and sang in the church's choir. Mr. McMillan retired from the Hecht's company after many years.
On Wednesday June 4, 2025, visitation from 9 a.m. until service 11 a.m. at Upper Room Baptist Church, 60 Burns Street, NE, Washington, DC 20019. Interment at Harmony Memorial Park.
Services entrusted to Stewart Funeral Home.
www.stewartfuneralhome.com



DEATH NOTICE

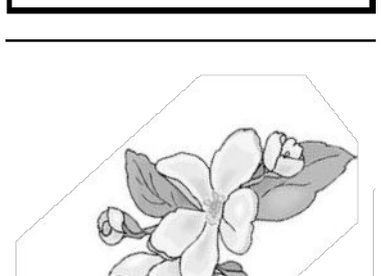
NEEL

BARBARA ANNE NEEL
NEEL–Barabara S., spouse of the late William B. Neel, loving mother of Jennifer and Elizabeth. Devoted grandmother of Broderick and Matthew. Affectionate sister of Philip D. Spiess II, sister-in-law Katherine P. Spiess, and aunt of Philip F. Spiess. Professional Artist and art teacher at Key Elementary School in Arlington, VA, for 30 years. Died late-Wednesday, May 28, 2025. A memorial service and reception will be held at the Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home, Fairfax, Virginia, on June 6; burial will be in Spring Grove Cemetery, Cincinnati, Ohio.

DEATH NOTICE

BAXTER

MELTON PHILLIPS BAXTER
Entered into eternal rest on Wednesday May 21, 2025 at Washington Hospital Center. She was preceeded in death by her husband, Boyd Baxter, Jr. She is survived by her son, Arnett Jermel Baxter and daughter, Malinda C. Baxter, along with many cousins, nieces, nephews, other loving relatives and friends. Viewing will be held on Friday June 6, 2025 at 9:30 a.m., followed by Homegoing service at 11 a.m. at Mount Carmel Baptist Church, 901 - 3rd St. N.W., Washington, DC 20001.
Interment, Cedar Hill Cemetery.
www.mcguire-services.com



DEATH NOTICE

DAVIS

TINA MARIE DAVIS
Tina Marie Davis, 65, of Germantown, MD passed away on Wednesday, May 28, 2025. Tina was a graduate of South Hagerstown High School and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business and Economics from St. Mary's College of Maryland in 1981. Tina spent her professional career supporting government contracts while employed by Northrop Grumman until her retirement in 2018. She later joined CGI Federal where she was employed until her death. Tina was preceded in death by her father Robert E. Davis Sr. and her brother Robert E. Davis Jr. Tina is survived by her 35 year life partner, William "Billy Jack" Jackson; her mother Edith Davis; aunt Patricia Sims of Germantown, MD and uncle Philip Sims of Westland, PA.
The family will be accepting family and friends on Saturday, June 7, 2025 at DeVol Funeral Home, 10 East Deer Park Drive, Gaithersburg, MD for a viewing starting at 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and the funeral service starting at 12 p.m. Please sign the online guestbook at:
www.DeVolFuneralHome.com

DEATH NOTICE

ROCHE

GEORGE T. ROCHE (Age 92)
George Thomas Roche, age 92, passed away on Sunday, May 18, 2025, surrounded by family and friends in Berlin, Maryland. Born in Waltham, MA, he was the son of the late James Patrick Roche and Kathleen Marie (Breen) Roche.
After high school, George joined the Marines and was stationed in Washington, DC before joining the Washington Gas Light company. It was here he met Pat, got married, and raised his family. He retired from Washington Gas Light after 37 years of service.
George was an avid Redskins fan, holding season tickets for many years. In his retirement years he enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren, golfing, woodworking and gardening. He also volunteered with several organizations in the community.
Our family would like to extend special thanks to the staff members of Gull Creek Senior Living and Coastal Hospice for their compassionate care.
He is survived by his two children, Kathleen Davenport (Pete), and Michael Roche (Rita); a brother, James Roche (Helen), a sister, Margaret Roche; grandchildren, Joseph Roche, Alan Roche (Sarah), Brian Roche (Cairen), Brendan Davenport (Alex), and Colleen Owens (John), great-grandchildren, Micah Roche, Kimberly Roche, Oliver Owens, Gavin Owens, and Liam Davenport; and his "sweetie" Doris Talios.
In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Patricia Roche.
A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, June 6, 2025, at 1 p.m., at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Ocean Pines, MD. Inurnment will follow at Sunset Memorial Park in Berlin. Letters of condolence can be sent to the family via www.burbagefuneralhome.com. Arrangements are in the care of The Burbage Funeral Home.
In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Coastal Hospice at www.coastalhospice.org or PO Box 1733, Salisbury, MD 21802.
www.burbagefuneralhome.com

DAEN

PHYLLIS DAEN (Age 94)
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST
Phyllis (Deutsch) Daen of Glen Echo, MD died at home on May 31, 2025 after a period of declining health. She is survived by her children, Jonathan (Susan) of Greenfield, MA, Matthew (Kirstin) of Charleston, SC and Amsterdam, Netherlands and Meris (Mark) of Glen Echo, MD; and nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband of 53 years, Jerome Daen, her sister Dorothy (O'Connell), her sister-in-law Miriam Daen, and her grandson, Nathaniel Lewis Peck Daen.
Phyllis was born on February 22, 1931 in New York City to Herbert M. and Esther Deutsch. She graduated from Queens College in 1950 and received her PhD. in Clinical Psychology from Adelphi University in 1960 where she was an American Association of University Women (AAUW) Fellow. She was a practicing clinical psychologist in both clinical and community mental health and private practice for 67 years until her retirement in 2021. Over the course of her career, she served as the Chief Psychologist for the Children's Home, Easton, PA from 1958-66; Chief Psychologist at South County Mental Health Clinic, Springfield, VA from 1968-72; and Director of Training at Woodburn Mental Health Clinic, Annandale, VA from 1972-78 before entering private practice. She served as a member of the faculty of Georgetown University, George Washington University, American University and George Mason University supervising PhD students and lecturing.
She was licensed in Washington, DC, Maryland and Virginia, and was a member of American Psychological Association, American Academy for the Advancement of Science, Maryland Psychological Association, The National Register of Health Service Psychologists, and the DC Psychological Association where she received the Distinguished Contribution Award in 1980. She was the president of the Washington Society for the Study of Hypnosis in 1982. She was a longtime member of the Eistophos Science Club of Washington DC. She was also an accomplished classically trained pianist and played and performed with many groups over the years. She was devoted to her family and particularly enjoyed gardening, being a member of the Camellia Society and the Lilypons Water Garden Society.
Friends and family are invited to the funeral service at Judean Memorial Gardens, 16225 Batchellors Forest Road, Olney, MD, on Thursday, June 5 at 10 a.m. followed by a reception. The family will bury Phyllis at Green River Cemetery in Greenfield, MA at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Makom (formerly Jewish Foundation for Group Homes). Services entrusted to Sagel Bloomfield Danzansky Goldberg Funeral Care.
www.sagelbloomfield.com

PEDAS

JOANNA PAULINE PEDAS
Joanna Pauline Pedas passed on to eternity peacefully on May 29, 2025 surrounded by her beloved family and held in the presence of God.

Born on April 13, 1965 to Evanthia Ann Kontos and Nick John Marmaras, Joanna is a radiant soul whose presence illuminated the lives of all those who knew her. She is a beacon of wisdom and warmth — cherished deeply by her family, friends, and community.

A remarkable woman with intelligence and grace, Joanna earned degrees with honors from both Duke University and George Washington University Law School. She practiced law with integrity and compassion until she chose to dedicate herself full-time to her greatest joy — her family.

Joanna married the love of her life, George Theodore Pedas on May 20, 1989. They were married for 36 wonderful years and were blessed by God with two treasured children, Theodore George James Pedas and Paulina Evangeline Pedas.

Family and faith were the cornerstones of Joanna's life. She served on the board of Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral and embodied the values of the church in all that she did. In later years, Joanna returned to her legal roots as a volunteer attorney negotiator for domestic relations cases.

Loving wife to George; cherished mother to Theodore and Paulina; Joanna's beautiful spirit also lives on through her beloved father, Nick; sister, Nicolette; Mother-in-law, Lea; and her family, Mitch, Kay, Jim, Wanda, Jimmy, Sharon, Nicole, Chris, Keith, Billy, Kelli, Michele, and George; as well as many loving cousins, nieces, nephews, godparents, and godchildren.

Joanna joins her mother Evanthia Ann, Uncle Deno, Father-in-law Ted, and Janet in eternal life.

Joanna will be dearly missed. May her memory be eternal.

Relatives and friends are invited to call at Joseph Gawler's Sons, 5130 Wisconsin Ave. NW Washington, DC on Tuesday June 3, 2025 from 5 to 7 p.m. Funeral Services will be held at Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at 12 p.m. Interment will follow at Rock Creek Cemetery in Washington, DC. For more information, please visit www.josephgawlers.com.

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CURRENT 2025 RATES:
(PER DAY)

MONDAY - SATURDAY
Black & White
3" - $525
4" - $575
5" - $725

SUNDAY
Black & White
3" - $580
4" - $610
5" - $790
6"+ for ALL Black & White notices

$160 each additional inch Mon - Sat
$191 each additional inch Sunday

MONDAY - SATURDAY
Color
3" - $670
4" - $725
5" - $885

SUNDAY
Color
3" - $710
4" - $810
5" - $985
6"+ for daily Color notices
$268 each additional inch Mon-Sat
$299 each additional inch Sunday

Notices with photos begin at 3"
(All photos add 2" to your notice.)

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A pretty terrific Tuesday

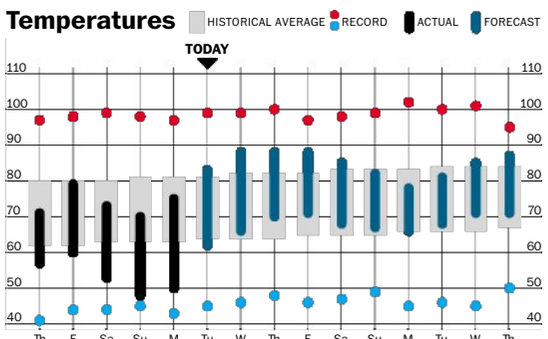
It'll be a great-looking early-summer day, with sunshine lifting afternoon highs to about 80 to the mid-80s while humidity stays low. Breezes will be hardly noticeable. A lone wrinkle will be the possibility of some haze from intruding wildfire smoke. Nighttime will be mostly clear and warmer than previous nights. Lows will settle in the upper 50s in the suburbs to the low 60s downtown.

AccuWeather FORECAST

Today	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Sunny, hazy	Sunny, hazy	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Afternoon t-storm	Mostly sunny
83° 62°	**88°** 66°	**88°** 70°	**88°** 71°	**85°** 68°	**82°** 67°
REALFEEL®: **88°**	REALFEEL® **92°**	REALFEEL® **93°**	REALFEEL® **95°**	REALFEEL® **85°**	REALFEEL® **87°**
CHANCE PRECIP: **0%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **0%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **0%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **0%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **55%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **0%**
WIND: **SW 4–8 mph**	WIND: **S 7–14 mph**	WIND: **S 7–14 mph**	WIND: **S 6–12 mph**	WIND: **SSW 8–16 mph**	WIND: **NNE 6–12 mph**
HUMIDITY: **Moderate**	HUMIDITY: **Moderate**	HUMIDITY: **High**	HUMIDITY: **High**	HUMIDITY: **High**	HUMIDITY: **Moderate**

OFFICIAL RECORD

Temperatures

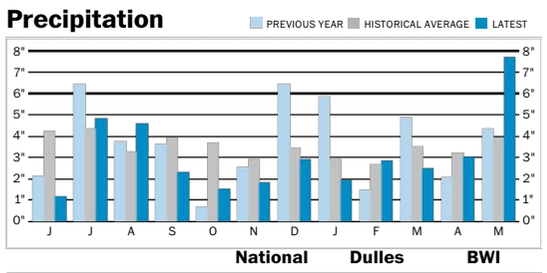


Statistics through 5 p.m. Monday

	National	Dulles	BWI
High	**75°** 3:36 p.m.	**74°** 4:00 p.m.	**76°** 4:00 p.m.
Low	**50°** 4:01 a.m.	**43°** 4:17 a.m.	**48°** 5:00 a.m.
Historical Average	81°/63°	79°/58°	80°/59°
Record high	97° 1925	93° 2023	97° 2023
Record low	43° 1897	41° 1993	44° 1993

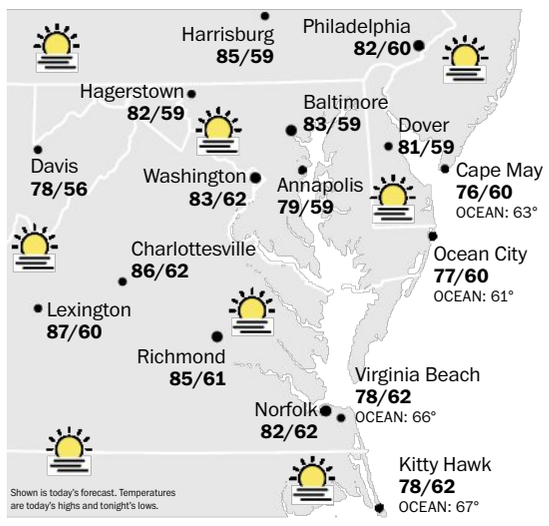
Difference from 30–yr. avg. (National): this month: **–11.3°** yr. to date: **+1.4°**

Precipitation



	National	Dulles	BWI
Past 24 hours	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"
Total this month	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"
Historical Average (month)	0.25"	0.30"	0.26"
Total this year	18.04"	13.92"	16.22"
Historical Average (year)	16.38"	17.54"	17.49"

REGION TODAY



Pollen: High
Observed ratings on 6/2

Grass	High
Trees	Moderate
Weeds	Low
Mold	Moderate

Today's Air Quality & UV forecast

Air Quality: Moderate
Main pollutant: Ozone

UV: Extreme
11 out of 11+

Blue Ridge: *Shenandoah National Park:* Today, hazy sun; smoke from Canadian wildfires will obscure the sky. High 80. Winds southeast 4–8 mph. Tonight, clear. Low 57. • *Great Smoky Mtns. National Park:* Today, not as warm, hazy sunshine; smoke from Canadian wildfires will obscure the sky. High 71. Winds south 6–12 mph. Tonight, mainly clear.

Atlantic beaches: *Ocean City, MD:* Today, hazy sun; smoke from Canadian wildfires will obscure the sky. High 77. Winds south 6–12 mph. Tonight, clear. Low 60. • *Virginia Beach:* Today, hazy sunshine; smoke from Canadian wildfires will obscure the sky. High 78. Winds south–southeast 7–14 mph. Tonight, clear. Low 62.

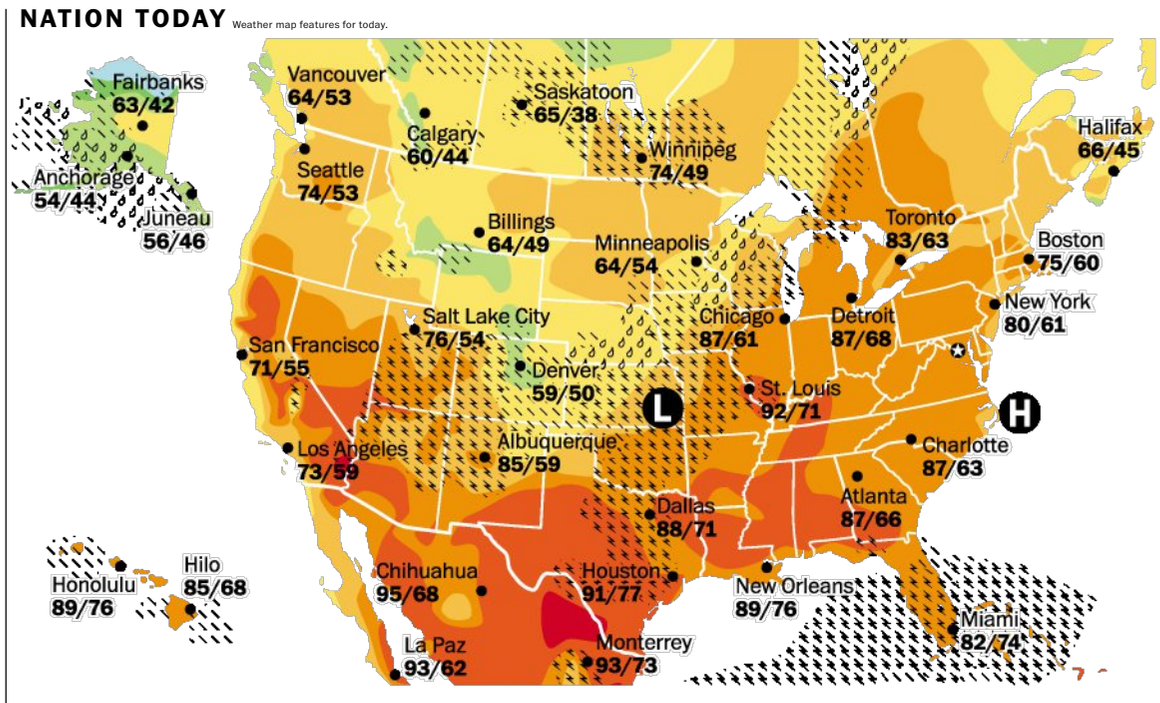
Waterways: *Upper Potomac River*: Today, hazy sun. Wind south–southwest 4–8 knots. Waves less than a foot. Visibility generally clear. • *Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay*: Today, hazy sun. Wind south 6–12 knots. Waves 0–1 foot on the Lower Potomac; 1–2 feet on the Chesapeake Bay.• *River Stages*: The stage at Little Falls will be around 6.70 feet today, rising to 7.00 Wednesday. Flood stage at Little Falls is 10 feet.

Today's tides (Shown are High tides in **Bold** and low tides.)

Washington	**2:49 a.m.**	9:36 a.m.	**3:03 p.m.**	10:01 p.m.
Annapolis	5:53 a.m.	**11:54 a.m.**	6:23 p.m.	**none**
Ocean City	**2:00 a.m.**	8:32 a.m.	**2:37 p.m.**	8:50 p.m.
Norfolk	**4:02 a.m.**	10:29 a.m.	**4:45 p.m.**	11:06 p.m.
Point Lookout	2:13 a.m.	**8:06 a.m.**	2:40 p.m.	**8:57 p.m.**

NATION TODAY

Weather map features for today.



T-storms · Rain · Showers · Snow · Flurries · Ice · Cold Front · Warm Front · Stationary Front

<–10 | –0s | 0s | 10s | 20s | 30s | 40s | 50s | 60s | 70s | 80s | 90s | 100s | 110+

Yesterday's National
High: Laredo, TX **100°**
Low: Bradford, PA **28°**
For the 48 contiguous states

Yesterday's World
High: Sibi, Pakistan **118°**
Low: Sutherland, South Africa **17°**
Excludes Antarctica

Moon Phases

June 11	June 18	June 25	July 2
Full	Last Quarter	New	First Quarter

Solar system

	Rise	Set
Sun	5:44 a.m.	8:29 p.m.
Moon	1:29 p.m.	1:45 a.m.
Venus	3:34 a.m.	4:35 p.m.
Mars	11:05 a.m.	12:54 a.m.
Jupiter	6:48 a.m.	9:37 p.m.
Saturn	2:27 a.m.	2:22 p.m.

NATIONAL	Today	Tomorrow
Albany, NY	81/58/pc	89/64/pc
Albuquerque	85/59/t	80/57/t
Anchorage	54/44/c	50/45/r
Atlanta	87/66/pc	83/68/t
Austin	92/77/t	91/74/t
Baltimore	83/59/pc	89/65/pc
Billings, MT	64/49/pc	65/45/c
Birmingham	88/71/pc	85/71/s
Bismarck, ND	73/46/s	75/46/sh
Boise	76/49/s	81/53/s
Boston	75/60/s	82/64/pc
Buffalo	81/65/pc	85/65/pc
Burlington, VT	80/64/pc	87/68/pc
Charleston, SC	88/69/pc	83/70/pc
Charleston, WV	87/65/pc	89/64/pc
Charlotte	87/63/pc	84/63/pc
Cheyenne, WY	51/42/r	64/47/c
Chicago	88/62/pc	66/54/r
Cincinnati	86/67/pc	85/69/pc
Cleveland	85/66/pc	89/63/pc
Dallas	88/71/t	81/71/t
Denver	59/50/r	71/52/c
Des Moines	72/54/t	80/59/pc
Detroit	87/68/pc	87/64/t
El Paso	93/72/s	95/69/pc
Fairbanks, AK	63/42/c	63/46/c
Fargo, ND	78/52/c	79/54/c
Hartford, CT	81/54/pc	89/62/pc
Honolulu	89/76/sh	87/73/sh
Houston	91/77/t	91/76/t
Indianapolis	86/68/pc	87/66/t
Jackson, MS	89/68/pc	88/71/pc
Jacksonville, FL	85/71/s	81/73/t
Kansas City, MO	75/53/t	78/58/c
Las Vegas	93/77/c	89/73/t
Little Rock	89/72/pc	88/73/t
Los Angeles	73/59/pc	72/59/s
Louisville	90/72/pc	89/71/sh
Memphis	87/71/pc	86/72/pc
Miami	82/74/t	84/78/t
Milwaukee	83/56/t	66/52/r
Minneapolis	64/54/r	79/61/pc
Nashville	91/71/pc	88/70/c
New Orleans	89/76/c	89/76/sh
New York City	80/61/pc	84/68/pc
Norfolk	82/62/pc	85/65/pc
Oklahoma City	82/57/t	75/63/c
Omaha	65/51/r	79/56/c
Orlando	84/71/t	83/71/t
Philadelphia	82/60/pc	88/64/pc
Phoenix	96/77/pc	98/76/s
Pittsburgh	82/61/pc	88/63/pc
Portland, ME	73/49/s	76/56/pc
Portland, OR	78/56/pc	71/56/pc
Providence, RI	78/52/s	80/58/pc
Raleigh, NC	87/62/pc	85/64/pc
Reno, NV	87/56/s	84/58/s
Richmond	85/61/pc	86/63/pc
Sacramento	89/54/s	90/56/s
St. Louis	92/71/t	78/66/t
St. Thomas, VI	90/77/pc	89/77/sh
Salt Lake City	76/54/s	78/60/s
San Diego	69/63/pc	69/61/pc
San Francisco	71/55/pc	70/55/pc
San Juan, PR	88/76/c	87/77/pc
Seattle	74/53/s	71/52/pc
Spokane, WA	73/50/s	76/54/pc
Syracuse	85/63/pc	91/68/pc
Tampa	86/73/t	84/75/t
Wichita	73/53/t	77/60/c

WORLD	Today	Tomorrow
Addis Ababa	78/53/c	77/55/pc
Amsterdam	71/57/c	66/54/c
Athens	84/64/s	86/66/s
Auckland	63/55/pc	67/59/r
Baghdad	95/72/s	98/78/s
Bangkok	91/80/r	93/80/sh
Beijing	85/60/s	93/65/s
Berlin	79/57/pc	78/60/t
Bogota	64/51/r	64/51/r
Brussels	75/56/pc	68/55/sh
Buenos Aires	60/53/c	65/49/pc
Cairo	87/68/s	89/69/s
Caracas	77/65/s	76/65/c
Copenhagen	63/56/pc	69/52/pc
Dakar	83/73/pc	85/75/pc
Dublin	62/44/pc	60/48/r
Edinburgh	60/46/r	59/45/r
Frankfurt	76/58/t	69/58/sh
Geneva	78/59/t	72/56/sh
Ham., Bermuda	79/70/c	78/67/s
Helsinki	66/44/pc	68/54/s
Ho Chi Minh City	93/77/c	92/77/t
Hong Kong	86/79/c	84/77/t
Islamabad	90/70/s	92/72/pc
Istanbul	81/65/s	84/68/s
Jerusalem	76/58/s	79/59/s
Johannesburg	69/40/s	70/42/s
Kabul	84/58/s	85/61/s
Kingston, Jam.	89/80/r	89/79/t
Kolkata	99/80/pc	94/79/t
Kyiv	86/59/pc	75/58/pc
Lagos	86/76/r	85/75/r
Lima	69/61/s	68/62/s
Lisbon	71/60/pc	77/59/c
London	66/50/r	66/54/sh
Madrid	77/58/c	81/59/pc
Manila	93/80/t	93/80/r
Mexico City	79/59/sh	80/57/sh
Montreal	79/61/pc	87/66/pc
Moscow	73/56/pc	72/53/pc
Mumbai	93/80/r	92/81/r
Nairobi	77/60/pc	75/61/t
New Delhi	92/76/pc	92/77/pc
Oslo	64/52/c	63/48/r
Ottawa	81/58/pc	89/65/pc
Paris	77/53/pc	71/56/r
Prague	75/57/t	81/56/t
Rio de Janeiro	78/70/t	80/70/s
Riyadh	105/78/s	103/81/pc
Rome	80/59/s	81/62/pc
San Salvador	84/67/sh	83/67/t
Santiago	62/44/c	64/35/pc
Sarajevo	88/55/pc	90/57/s
Seoul	76/58/pc	77/56/s
Shanghai	80/69/pc	91/73/pc
Singapore	92/80/t	90/81/t
Stockholm	67/47/pc	67/51/r
Sydney	67/54/pc	56/49/sh
Taipei City	87/72/t	77/73/r
Tehran	99/67/s	87/62/s
Tokyo	70/65/r	81/67/s
Toronto	83/63/pc	87/63/t
Vienna	75/58/t	86/67/c
Warsaw	74/55/t	81/63/pc

Key: **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **r**-rain, **sh**-showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

Sources: **AccuWeather.com**; US Army Centralized Allergen Extract Lab (pollen data); airnow.gov (air quality data); National Weather Service

* AccuWeather's **RealFeel Temperature®** combines over a dozen factors for an accurate measure of how the conditions really "feel."

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Style

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025

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THEATER REVIEW

DJ COREY/SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY

A monster of a premiere

Shakespeare Theatre Company's 'Frankenstein,' a jump-scary psychodrama with a literary pedigree, is very much alive

BY TREY GRAHAM

The "Frankenstein" that roared to life in D.C. this past weekend marks a triumphant U.S. directorial debut for London-based theater savant Emily Burns, who'd already earned a measure of local attention for adapting the script for the "Macbeth" that brought Ralph Fiennes to Shakespeare Theatre Company last spring. As in that intriguing but uneven exercise, Burns has chucked a night-dark classic and a brisk contemporary vibe into her authorial Cuisinart. But this time, with the writer-director not just remixing the story but shepherding the whole shebang, the resulting world premiere is a blistering success — unabashedly intelligent, sumptuously visualized, taut as an assassin's garrote. It's jump-scary psychodrama with a literary pedigree, served up in sleek prestige-TV style. If there's any theatrical justice it'll end up making piles of money on Broadway and the West End.

We're still in Geneva circa 1790, still in Mary Shelley's shadow-shrouded tale of an Enlightenment-inspired wannabe scientist. The moral and ethical probings still circle around what exactly Victor Frankenstein (Nick Westrate) has been up to of late. But there's also the intimately personal question, more urgent now than ever, of what the fallout will be for Elizabeth (Rebecca S'manga Frank), Victor's adopted sister and eventual wife.

You might reasonably guess that in a rewrite grounded in what the script says is "psychologically now," she'll end up being far more than a tragic second-banana figure. What you might not expect is how far and how firmly Burns will manage to shift focus to Elizabeth without entirely dismissing Victor

SEE THEATER REVIEW ON C2

Rebecca S'manga Frank and Nick Westrate in "Frankenstein" at Shakespeare Theatre Company.

Trump could pardon Diddy. Not if 50 Cent can help it.

BY JANAY KINGSBERRY

President Donald Trump has long demonstrated a willingness to flex his pardon power for friends, allies and celebrities in sticky legal situations.

Last week, he granted clemency to several people, including a rapper known as NBA YoungBoy and reality stars Todd and Julie Chrisley. And on Friday, as Sean "Diddy" Combs sat in a New York courthouse for his federal racketeering and sex-trafficking trial, Trump said he would consider a pardon for the music mogul who was once a friend and peer in their early years as wealthy businessmen and reality TV juggernauts.

"I haven't seen, I haven't spoken to him in years. He used to really like me a lot. I think when I ran for politics, that relationship busted up, from what I read," Trump said, when asked about the possibility of a pardon at a White House news conference Friday.

"I don't know, I would certainly look at the facts," Trump added. "If I think someone was mistreated, whether they like me or dislike me wouldn't have any impact."

Combs, who has pleaded not guilty to five criminal charges of sex trafficking, racketeering conspiracy and transportation to engage in prostitution, faces a potential life sentence if convicted of all charges.

SEE COMBS ON C3

FASHION

New Dior role shakes things up at LVMH

BY RACHEL TASHJIAN

LVMH, the biggest and most powerful fashion conglomerate in the world, said early Monday morning that Jonathan Anderson will be the next creative director of women's, men's and couture at Dior, one of its crown jewels.

The house's press release touted that this is the first time that a designer has taken on the men's and women's roles at once since Christian Dior himself was in charge. Between Anderson's role at Dior, his work at his own brand JW Anderson and an ongoing collaboration with Uniqlo, the designer will likely churn out a whopping 18 collections a year — a prolific output rivaling that of the late Karl Lagerfeld, who oversaw Chanel, Fendi, his eponymous brand and various other projects as if he were doing nothing more complicated than folding laundry.

Jonathan Anderson

SEE FASHION ON C3

OPERA REVIEW

Brotherly love for 'Tristan and Isolde'

BY MICHAEL ANDOR BRODEUR

PHILADELPHIA — On Sunday afternoon at Marian Anderson Hall, Yannick Nézet-Séguin led his Philadelphia Orchestra through the four-hour entirety of Richard Wagner's "Tristan and Isolde." And I don't think I'm overdoing it to say that once it was over, it felt like something Very Important had just happened.

Maybe that's because there were several bits of history in the mix — the sort of things that outside the context of opera's most tormented tragedy would qualify as "fun facts": In addition to being the first Wagner opera that Nézet-Séguin has led with the Philadelphia Orchestra, this was his first time conducting "Tristan and Isolde" in full. (His second will take place on Sunday, when the program repeats.)

Additionally, this is the orchestra's first performance of "Tristan" since 1934, when it gave the U.S. premiere of the uncut version of the opera, with Hans Grahl singing Tristan and Marga Dannenberg as Isolde.

One more: The orchestra uses *and* in all of the materials where it mentions the title, but I keep typing *und*.

SEE OPERA REVIEW ON C2

Bringing a classic monster to life

THEATER REVIEW FROM **C1**

DJ COREY/SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY

Rebecca S'manga Frank, seen with Nick Westrate, gives a hypnotically sure performance as Elizabeth in "Frankenstein" at Shakespeare Theatre Company.

as "the real monster," that tired old oversimplification. Or how much genuinely suffocating suspense she'll wring from the hows and the whys and the what-could-you-possibly-be-thinkings.

We'll have none of the novel's epistolary, travelogue-y throat-clearings to kick off this brutally efficient retelling; no Arctic vistas, no random ice floe encounters. Burns launches things in smothering gloom instead, with moody surtitles and a moodier voice-over. (Tired devices, you might sneer, right up until they pay off in a hair-raising collision of remembered horror, real-time revelation and rapacious need.)

Those opening atmospherics give way, suddenly and startlingly, to a titanic thunderclap and a strobed glimpse of what looks for an instant like your standard mad-scientist lab setup. (The design elements, courtesy of scenarist Andrew Boyce, costumer Kaye Voyce, lighting guru Neil Austin, sound artist André Pluess and projectionist Elizabeth Barrett, prove uniformly superb and enviably unified.)

A quick tonal shift, more light, and we're in the soaring moonlit kitchen of the Frankenstein family's stately home, well past midnight on the stormy eve of the young couple's long-planned wedding. Then Burns's lean story edit derails not just the planned nuptials but everyone's entire lives: Victor's 10-year-old brother, William, reported missing in the opening exchanges, is confirmed dead.

Which is when things get all 21st-century head-shrinky: Justine (Anna Takayo), the devoted family retainer framed for the murder in Shelley's version, implicates her own self in this telling, confessing to the crime out of a morbid conviction that her impatience with William's preadolescent rowdiness had driven him out of the house and into the real killer's path. And Justine's piercing need to atone for what she sees as unforgivably bad (surrogate) parenting is merely the first suggestion of the soul-searchings to come over at the Frankenstein place. Victor and Elizabeth and eventually their righteous wet nurse (Takayo again, chameleoning nicely) will dig into memories of childhood alienation, tales of shifting parental affections and confrontations around what being a decent mother even means. Or, crucially, a halfway-decent father.

It's all grounded impeccably, both in key themes from the original text and in stark traumas Shelley navigated in real life: Her mother's death was a direct result of her birth, while her own son, not coincidentally named William, was ailing around the time of the novel's conception and dead by the age of 3. The author lost three other children in their infancy, too. No shortage of resonance in all that for this adaptation's explorations of what courage it takes to contemplate the making of a child, how hugely the process of creating life can go awry, how quickly the simplicities of youth can curdle into the monstrosities of adult humanity.

Frank's hypnotically sure performance as Elizabeth is the staging's bright lodestar. Her voice is caramel and cloves, expressive even in Burns's lighter modern phrasings, downright beguiling in more lyrical passages taken whole from Shelley's period text. Her body language speaks more resonantly yet: Stillness can equal immense authority onstage, and this actor's economy of movement generates black hole gravity, making larger gestures all the more seismic when they erupt.

Takayo's is a nervier and more restless presence, as is Westrate's — aptly enough given the essential fecklessness of this adaptation's still-charming Victor. He's twitchy and shifty and impossible to repose any real faith in, this thoroughly modern man-child, which is one potent way Burns sustains the evening's exquisite narrative tension. Grounding a character's evasions and fictions in a physical vocabulary that screams "I cannot be trusted" is a sly tactic for making an audience second-guess what it already knows to be a horrifying truth.

That truth, of course, involves what constitutes monstrosity, and in whose eyes. Burns's last great coup is the climactic reveal that finally settles the question of whether this tale of a grotesque and murderous villain bears any resemblance to fact. It's not quite a spoiler to acknowledge that a Creature does make an appearance — actor Lucas Iverson gets a playbill credit, after all — but the specifics of that answer and the delicacy in how Burns and company navigate the moment elicited audible gasps at Sunday's matinee. Like nearly every rich and gorgeous element of this "Frankenstein," it's flat-out astonishing.

Frankenstein, through June 29 at the Klein Theatre. About 2 hours 20 minutes, including an intermission. *shakespearetheatre.org*.

In Philly, a triumphant 'Tristan and Isolde'

OPERA REVIEW FROM **C1**

JESSICA GRIFFIN/PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA

Yannick Nézet-Séguin leads the Philadelphia Orchestra in a performance of "Tristan und Isolde."

But more than these tidbits, I suspect the palpable heft of the moment as we all mopped our cheeks and filed out through the plaza of the Kimmel Center was due to what we'd just heard — a finely wrought, fully realized performance of "Tristan" that will reside in my mind as one of the greatest things I've ever heard. And I say "fully realized" knowing that it wasn't — a good concert performance of an opera makes you forget it's "just" a concert, and this was one of those. A few folks I spoke to during one of two intermissions even expressed surprise at their relief, freed as they were from extraneous concepts and undue time travel.

Light and effective stage direction was provided by Dylan Evans, situating the singers on a platform above the orchestra, where they indeed roiled like the sea beneath Tristan's ship in the first act. If I make it back to Philly this weekend to do it all over again, it will be because of this highly concentrated, assiduously performed and gorgeous-sounding concert treatment.

This was also a performance that looked forward. In March 2026, Nézet-Séguin will lead the opera at his other home base, the Metropolitan Opera, where Yuval Sharon's new production will star tenor Michael Spyres and soprano Lisa Davidsen in the title roles. But Sunday offered a unique and rewarding chance for listeners to get acquainted with Nézet-Séguin getting acquainted with "Tristan," an effort that often had him on tiptoes, and not just to show off his Louboutins.

Composed between 1857 and 1859 and premiered in 1865, "Tristan and Isolde" is Wagner's telling of the tale of an Irish princess and a Breton nobleman, drawn together through violence and vengeance but ultimately bound in passion by a potent potion — their love in betrayal of a royal betrothal and defiance of the physical world itself. Were it not for the score's relentless climb, it would be heavy stuff.

But from the slow, graceful assembly of themes in the first act to the blissful revelation (and resolution) of its final moments ("Liebestod"), Nézet-Séguin kept his players alive, attentive and attuned to Wagner's singular palette of colors. He stoked Wagner's "fierce and terrible yearning" in storms of brass and scathing strings; but he also coaxed long stretches of impossible delicacy from the orchestra. The quietest parts were louder than the loudest.

For Philadelphians who love their orchestra, it was a also a celebration of individual players. Principal viola Choong-Jin Chang had a sensational long afternoon, as did concertmaster David Kim. From an upper tier, Elizabeth Starr Masoudnia offered an entrancing lament on English horn in the third act, followed by Jeffrey Curnow, sounding the Holztrompete to indicate the long-awaited approach of Isolde by sea.

One other fact (slightly less fun) is that these concerts in Philadelphia mark soprano Nina Stemme's final turn in the role of Isolde for the complete opera. The Swedish-born soprano first sang the part at Glyndebourne Festival in 2003 under the guidance of Birgit Nilsson. Two decades later, Isolde seems to reside within her body, her incandescent high notes just one feature of her ample arsenal. Stemme's voice can plunge like a blade (as it did in Act 1, as Isolde hungers for revenge) or leap in orgasmic ecstasy (as it did in Act 3's "sun drenched day of bliss"). But more than anything, she maximized the tension that keeps the opera's massive emotional arc intact.

Tenor Stuart Skelton was a sensational Tristan — his voice big and booming yet surprisingly lithe and lean. The resignation in an aria recounting his tormented past — which did sometimes lose him in the wash of the music — showed canny restraint as he unleashed his full force into the great collapse of Act 3.

Mezzo-soprano Karen Cargill was endearing and fiery as Brangäne, switcher of potions and (otherwise) protector of Isolde. She's a mighty mezzo, fully present even when singing from the topmost tier, and gifted with strong, expressive instincts. Her "Beware!" certainly worked on me, if not on Isolde. Baritone Brian Mulligan was also impressive as Tristan's right-hand man Kurwenal, though the role seemed to take a physical toll on him, a white-knuckle tension attending his hard, steely singing.

I quite enjoyed bass Tareq Nazmi, who beautifully rendered King Marke's heartbreak over Tristan's betrayal by leaving shadows of his undermined authority intact. Tenor Freddie Ballentine was smart and affecting as royal tattletale Melot. The tenors and basses of the Philadelphia Symphonic Choir, directed by Donald Palumbo, made bracing contributions as a gang of "sailors, knights and esquires," depending on the act.

If four hours of focused listening sounds demanding, the average concertgoer need not worry: The run time only makes a difference before the concert starts, when you're making your reservations for the dinner you will absolutely need afterward. In the midst of "Tristan and Isolde," time itself seems to come undone — Wagner recalibrates fleeting moments into endless eternities (and vice versa). Like the composer's intermingling themes and the lovers themselves, I left transfigured — the potion has yet to wear off.

Richard Wagner's "Tristan and Isolde" repeats Sunday at Marian Anderson Hall, 300 S. Broad St., Philadelphia. *philorch.ensembleartsphilly.org*.

Sorry, Mother, I like our dog sitter too much to give you her contact info

Carolyn Hax

Adapted from an online discussion.

Dear Carolyn: Lowish-stakes question: My new spouse and I have a wonderful dog sitter, whom we cherish and don't want to lose. My parents live about 20 miles away and have two purebred dogs. My mother has always been a difficult, rigid person and has lost a lot of friends over the years because of her anger and difficult personality. (Managing that aspect of my relationship with her is the subject of a different letter.)

Their previous dog sitter, for whatever reason, is no longer available to take care of my parents' dogs according to my mother's increasingly rigid and prescribed rules during their increasingly frequent vacations. My mother keeps asking for our sitter's contact information.

I do not want to give it to her — even if the sitter figures out right away what a no-win situation that is, I worry that I will be tarred with the brush of Mom's Unreasonableness and that may affect our relationship with our sitter. I need a script for refusing my mother's escalating requests for the contact information, something other than "no," or ignoring her, or finally telling her the truth about how difficult she is and how giving out that information will have a serious negative impact on me.

— Doghouse

Doghouse: This is a lowish-stakes offshoot to the high-stakes issue, so this minor one will vanish once you find a way to stand up to your mom that is both scalable and

ILLUSTRATION BY NICK GALIFIANAKIS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

allows you to sleep at night.

You said it was another letter, but why not economize.

We've been here before. Be calm and civil; say yes and no when you want to, not when you think you're supposed to; don't let anyone treat your "no" as an opening to negotiations; and don't engage with any tantrums you set off with a "no" someone doesn't like.

If that's easier read than done, then therapy is a good place to learn boundaries, or try the endearingly basic "Lifeskills for Adult Children" by Janet Woititz and Alan Garner.

For the minor issue, though? You can hand the dog sitter your mother's information and let them work it out.

Your sitter might shoot down the gig as too far away. Or really want the business, with a steep high-maintenance upcharge … because with the contact information, you will of course also pass along the intel that your mother has "increasingly rigid and prescribed rules" for her animals' care. But do be clear that "if you're not taking new clients, I'll let her know." Ahem. Or just not taking this one, which is also okay.

We're not even talking about the best reason to say "Sorry, Mom, state secret": Your parents take frequent vacations. I'm not giving away my dog care if that means the sitter won't be available for my shmoof.

Readers' thoughts:

• The dog sitter question isn't low-stakes, but it is easy. Or was easy, until you continued to dodge your mother forever. All you had to do was say, "She isn't accepting new clients." Or, like Carolyn said, give the scoop and let your dog sitter decide. This isn't a situation you need to manage for either of them. It would only tarnish your reputation if you sprang your mother on the dog sitter without any warning.

• Yes, ask the dog sitter, BUT be clear they have your permission to say no up-front or after giving it a try, and that it will NOT affect your desire to hire/keep them.

Write to Carolyn Hax at *tellme@washpost.com*. Get her column delivered to your inbox each morning at *wapo.st/gethax*.

Join the discussion live at noon Fridays at *washingtonpost.com/live-chats*.

LVMH announces triple threat creative director for Dior

FASHION FROM **C1**

Legendary stuff, perhaps. Anderson, at 40, is the most celebrated designer of his generation, transforming Loewe (also under the LVMH umbrella) into a powerhouse of viral creativity over the past decade. And Dior, best known for the 1940s concoction of a conservative bar jacket and full skirt deemed the "New Look," is deliciously corruptible material for the puckish Anderson.

But the news also emphasizes fashion, and especially LVMH, as a machine that treats its talent as disposable. And it arrives in a landscape that is, if not inhospitable to big corporate fashion, then skeptical or tired of it. Luxury, right now, is probably the least cool thing on the planet; every brand, from Chanel to Louis Vuitton and Dior itself, is undergoing a sales slump. Some, such as Gucci and Valentino, are in the midst of an existential crisis, as their designers and executives struggle to define them. (The bright spot is Hermès. Rah-rah-sis-boom-Birkin to them.)

The announcement was all but botched. Typically these transitions — and God, there have been countless ones lately — see one designer depart with a flurry of appreciative words and stories, a careful amount of time (sometimes months, sometimes weeks) go by as executives give polite comments about looking for the right talent to *carry forward the savoir faire of the house*, followed by an announcement with a fresh portrait by the designer's photographer of choice and a polite CEO interview with Vogue. The routine is respectful of all parties involved, and it gives the public and media (which in fashion, includes countless social media accounts that play a role between influencer and press prop) time to drum up excitement around the debut show.

Anderson's Dior appointment began with rumors last fall. Not uncommon (no one blends fantasy and fact like a garmento), but LVMH did little to dispel control the rumblings, rolling out the news herky-jerky. Kim Jones, the mildly received menswear designer, stepped down after his January show with little fanfare, and there was no Loewe runway show in March despite the fact that Anderson had not said he was leaving his post. LVMH founder and CEO Bernard Arnault then disclosed part of Anderson's new role as the menswear lead almost flippantly during the annual shareholders meeting in April, in response to a question. The other half of Anderson's job, designing couture and women's ready-to-wear, was not shared at that time, and Maria Grazia Chiuri, who had led Dior womenswear since 2016, showed two collections: one during the March shows in Paris and another, a sort of couture-resort show combo in Rome last week. The brand touted the shows as business as usual but all in attendance and watching online viewed them as awkward swan songs. Chiuri officially said she was leaving last Thursday, two days after the show in Rome.

Rather than creating a sense of airtight control, the awkward communication has made it seem as though LVMH was ruthlessly cycling through designers — that Chiuri and Jones's tenure was forgettable and Anderson's appointment less epic than they probably want it to feel. Of course, LVMH and all designers involved will get over it; Dior CEO Delphine Arnault spoke elegantly about Chiuri's tenure in an interview with Business of Fashion, saying that the strange news rollout was in part Chiuri's suggestion. And Delphine Arnault is already painting Anderson as the natural heir to Christian Dior ("He also loves gardening and flowers, like Monsieur Dior," she said — which, what? When does Anderson have time to plant anything?).

LVMH has always been this way: Its ruthless nature is how it built some of the most powerful brand names in the world. It created the fashion ecosystem of today — emphatically mass, bold, corporatized. But thus, when the luxury world is in a slump, one can't help but see how the LVMH way has contributed to that attitude. Two days before the shareholder meeting in which Arnault began to announce Anderson's new job, Hermès officially overtook LVMH as Europe's most valuable luxury company amid shrinking sales at the latter business. Hermès is a huge brand that acts like a small, and very human, one. And it is still, despite that valuation, much smaller than LVMH — 84.7 billion euros in sales in 2024 versus Hermès's 15.2 billion, according to Bloomberg. Its limited scale, abetted by an emphasis on exclusivity, have no doubt contributed to its success. That puts Anderson's copious collections in a dubious light.

Consumers are in a state of luxury anhedonia, and Bernard Arnault (or BA, as his soldiers, including his children, call him), who is the richest man in France and owns almost all the most

JOHN PHILLIPS/GETTY IMAGES FOR BFC

Jonathan Anderson at the 2024 Fashion Awards at the Royal Albert Hall on Dec. 2 in London.

powerful fashion brands except Hermès and Chanel, is shouldering much of that pain. Prices are too high, products are underwhelming, and conglomerates are cycling the same designers in and out of creative director jobs with such speed and indignity that announcements like Pierpaolo Piccioli's move to Kering's Balenciaga amount to little more than a shrug.

Remember more than two years ago, when Sarah Burton left Kering's McQueen and was replaced by a man and the conglomerate was then without any women designers, and LVMH had just two, at Dior and Pucci? Now, Kering has one — Louise Trotter, whose Bottega Veneta will debut in Milan in September — and LVMH has only its Pucci head Camille Miceli and Burton, whom Arnault lured to Givenchy late last year. The names have changed but the numbers have not. In other words, while so much seems to have shifted with new designers at Dior, Loewe, Balenciaga, Gucci, Bottega Veneta and Chanel, it also feels as if nothing is different. That's not a great message for middle-market consumers who are supposed to prop up the industry by lusting after pricey handbags, mascaras and shoes.

And on top of that, to quote one of our era's great memes — "girl, the tariffs." Arnault is fashion's master chess player; he plays a long game yet moves quickly and his losses are few. His alignment with Trump *seemed* wise. During the first administration, he made opened a factory in Texas, appearing at a ribbon cutting to pump fists with the president. In January, Arnault attended the inauguration, his face — and the faces of his children, Dior CEO Delphine and Moet Hennesey deputy CEO Alexandre — among the tech and business titans who also came to kiss the ring. Now that factory is one of the company's worst performing, and Bernard Arnault said in his April shareholders meeting that it is the European Commission's responsibility to negotiate a reasonable trade deal, not Trump's duty to shift his unpopular tariff strategy — seeming to give Trump a pass, or perhaps admitting that his friendship with the president has not borne the fruit he expected. (Still, Arnault visited Washington in May to meet with the president the week of the Met Gala, which Louis Vuitton sponsored but which Arnault has not attended in years, to talk tariffs.) All that adds to consumer ambivalence. Who can get excited about luxury goods getting needlessly more expensive?

Maybe unwittingly, the puppeteers of big-brand fashion have set up a showdown to define what this strange world of designer goods means today. While Anderson will debut his first Dior collection at the Paris men's shows later this month, it is his big September women's show that will be the talker. His Loewe was successful because it was mischievous, funny and extraordinarily weird. (Look at its TikTok! The most creative thing you can "consume" in "luxury" today.) Loewe was, in his last four years, an unceasing animal of almost primal creativity. At JW Anderson, his primary muse is the trans cabaret singer Justin Vivian Bond. Can Dior be funny? Subversive? Will the first lady, who has adopted Dior skirt suits practically as a uniform, wear the same jacket as Bond? Can you bake all that into a stodgy, conservative fashion brand? At Chanel, Matthieu Blazy (also 40!) faces a similar quagmire: He is a man of heart and integrity. Can the most recognizable brand in fashion, whose handbags and tweed skirt suits are as evocative as McDonald's golden arches, project tenderness, humanity?

Whether the future of luxury — of desire, of aspiration — is naughty but enormous, or genuine but pop, will be the great question of the fall shows.

Trump has not ruled out pardon

COMBS FROM **C1**

Rapper Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson, who has clashed with Combs for years and is co-producing a documentary about him, indicated that he would try to sway Trump against pardoning his rival.

In a post on his Instagram page Friday, Jackson claimed that Combs "said some really bad things about Trump," adding that he will "reach out so [the president] knows how I feel about this guy."

In another post, he said: "Donald doesn't take well to disrespect, and doesn't forget who chooses to go against him. While working tirelessly to make America great again there is no room for distraction. He would consider pardoning anyone who was being mistreated not Puffy Daddy."

Jackson is among a number of rap artists — including Snoop Dogg, Ice Cube, Lil Wayne and Ye, formerly known as Kanye West — who have spoken in support of Trump in recent years.

And while it's unclear how close Trump and Combs actually were, they shared social circles and were often photographed together in the 1990s and early 2000s as high-profile fixtures of New York's business, entertainment and nightlife scenes.

After launching Bad Boy Records in the 1990s, Combs grew as a force in fashion and media, while Trump had cemented his status as a real estate tycoon and media persona with his best-selling books and television appearances.

In the early 2000s, they became parallel figures of the reality TV boom, rising in pop culture as hosts of competition shows — Combs's "Making the Band" and Trump's "The Apprentice."

Over the years, the two praised each other's success in interviews.

RON GALELLA/GETTY IMAGES

Donald Trump and Sean "Diddy" Combs shake hands during the 1997 grand opening of Combs's restaurant, Justin's.

In one resurfaced clip from a 2012 episode of "The Apprentice" that was widely circulated online after Combs's arrest in September, Trump called Combs a "good friend of mine" and added, "I think he's a good guy, I'm going to stick up for him."

Similarly, months after Trump announced his plans to run for president, Combs told The Washington Post in 2015, "Donald Trump is a friend of mine, and he works very hard."

But by 2020, as Trump was campaigning for his reelection, Combs's attitude shifted.

He endorsed Joe Biden for president and in an interview with Charlamagne tha God, Combs warned that Trump's victory could start a race war.

"White men like Trump need to be banished. That way of thinking is real dangerous," he said. "We're in a war of love versus hate. The number one priority is to get Trump out of office."

Now in its fourth week, Combs's trial has brought a packed list of witnesses to the stand. They include his former partner and R&B singer Casandra "Cassie" Ventura, rapper Kid Cudi, former Danity Kane member Dawn Richard and ex-employees and associates connected to Combs's sprawling empire.

Ventura, who testified during the first week of trial as the prosecution's star witness, recounted alleged physical and sexual abuse that spanned her 11-year relationship with Combs. That included graphic testimony about "freak-offs" — the sex and drug-fueled parties at the center of the prosecution's case.

More-recent testimony has laid out new allegations of criminal activity by the hip-hop impresario, including rape, kidnapping and arson, as the government tries to prove Combs created a culture of violence and fear that allowed him to carry out racketeering.

His defense team, which is expected to make its case in mid-June, has attempted to dismantle the idea that a crime was committed at all or, in other instances, create distance from Combs and the alleged incident. They have also tried to suggest that Ventura was a consensual and willing participant in freak-offs where she had sex with male escorts.

Combs has remained in federal custody during his trial, which the judge hopes to wrap before the July 4 holiday.

Carla Spartos, Avi Selk and Anne Branigin contributed to this report.

Animal-loving friend courts danger by feeding wildlife in her backyard

Asking Eric

R. ERIC THOMAS

Dear Eric: A friend of mine is a lovely woman, and a real animal lover. The problem is that she lives near some woods and feeds the wild animals that come to her yard. I'm not talking about just putting out a bird feeder, but she feeds opossums, raccoons, deer and other creatures, and gets a lot of pleasure out of doing so. It is not recommended that anyone feed wild animals in this way. It is bad for the animals and for you, for lots of reasons.

This week a black bear came up to her back door, putting herself and her neighbors at risk. (She thought it was cute.) What can I say to discourage her from doing this? She absolutely considers herself a saint for "helping out God's creatures," and she is not receptive to contrary suggestions.

— Also an Animal Lover, But …

Animal Lover: Opossums, and raccoons and bears?! Oh my. You're correct that feeding wild animals is potentially quite dangerous for them and for your friend. The Department of Agriculture is quite clear on this. Wild animals have specialized diets and can die if they're fed the wrong foods. Wild animals that grow too accustomed to people are at risk of becoming too aggressive, resulting in injury to others, or too comfortable around moving vehicles, resulting in their own injury. In short, unless your friend is an expert on wildlife, she's not doing them the service she might think she is.

You can direct her to the Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services, where they don't mince words about why this isn't a wise idea and give suggestions for ways of better living in harmony with wild animals.

But if she's not receptive to contrary suggestions, chances are she's already heard what experts say and has decided to do what she wants anyway. This makes me sad for her and for the animals. It's best to enjoy viewing wildlife from a distance, so that they can stay wild and stay safe.

Dear Eric: In the age of Ozempic weight loss, I have an etiquette question. When you see a friend who has lost so much weight, what is the proper thing to say? Saying, "Wow, you look great" makes it sound like they didn't look good before. Yet, you can't ignore the change. I've been trying to come up with something appropriate, but I'm at a loss.

— What to Say

What to Say: In general, it's best to not comment on other people's physical appearance, so I'd say yes, you can ignore the change. People's bodies change for all kinds of reasons — weight loss programs, medications, surgery, illness, exercise and more. There's no shame in looking different or wanting to look different. But the invitation for public commentary is often erroneously assumed. Unless someone says, "I'm feeling great after taking Ozempic and I'm glad I did it," or something like that, you don't need to comment.

Dear Eric: I wanted to add a perspective to "Sad Aunt," who felt great resentment at her nephews who were "gatekeepers" when they were caring for their dying father.

My grandmother was a very social and funny woman. She never met a stranger.

When she was diagnosed with late-stage lung cancer, her decline was very surprising and very fast. My father and I flew in to help support, while she was in hospice at home (shoutout to the incredible team of hospice workers who cared for her).

It was very shocking and painful for her, and suddenly, this woman who loved nothing more than having her home filled with as many people as possible for a "sit and visit" wanted no one but her sons and grandchildren near her.

My father was tasked with "gatekeeping" and respecting her wishes. I knew many family members were not happy when he had to turn down phone calls and visits.

End-of-life care is heartbreaking and exhausting. While it may seem, and may very possibly be, a hostile act from the brother's children, another strong possibility is that his children were rallying around him and giving the care he requested. Perhaps seeing that his children were able to care and reconnect so deeply after a fraught marriage and divorce is heartening. Maybe reaching out with gratitude to his children with compassion and for their care of your dear brother can help bridge a new relationship and together you can all learn and share new memories of your brother and create new bonds.

— Most Grateful Granddaughter

Granddaughter: I'm sorry for the loss of your grandmother and I appreciate this alternative perspective for the letter writer. Sometimes with familial questions that can't be answered, it's best to lead with empathy and assume the most generous explanation.

Send questions to R. Eric Thomas at *eric@askingeric.com* or P.O. Box 22474, Philadelphia, PA 19110. Follow him on Instagram and sign up for his weekly newsletter at *rericthomas.com*.

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TELEVISION

6/3/25	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
4.1 WRC (NBC)	♦ **NBCNe..**	♦ **News4..**	♦ **America's Got Talent**				♦ **Destination X**		♦ **News**
4.2 WRC (IND)	King	King	King	King	King	King	Nanny	Nanny	Nanny
5.1 WTTG (Fox)	♦ **Fox 5**	♦ **TMZ**	♦ **The Cleaning Lady** (SF)				♦ **Fox 5 at 10**		♦ **Fox 5**
7.1 WJLA (ABC)	♦ **Wheel**	♦ **Jeopardy!**	♦ **Celebrity Wheel**		♦ Jeopardy! Masters		♦ Game Show		♦ **News**
9.1 WUSA (CBS)	♦ InsideEd.	♦ **ET**	♦ NCIS		♦ NCIS: Origins		♦ NCIS: Sydney		♦ **9 News**
14.1 WFDC (UNI)	♦ **Rosa**		♦ **A.mar**		♦ **Karsu, la fuerza**		♦ **Juegos de amor**		♦ Noticias
20.1 WDCA (MNTV)	♦ FamFeud	♦ FamFeud	♦ **Fox 5 News**		♦ TrueCri..	♦ Crime	♦ FamFeud	♦ FamFeud	♦ Suits
22.1 WMPT (PBS)	♦ Farm	♦ Outdoors	♦ Railroad		♦ Harriet Tubman			♦ Memory Makeover	
26.1 WETA (PBS)	♦ **PBS News Hour**		♦ Joseph Campbell and The Power of Myth						
32.1 WHUT (PBS)	♦ Blackad..	♦ Tell Me	♦ Earth, Wind			♦ I Go to the Rock			♦ Memory
50.1 WDCW (CW)	♦ BobHeart	♦ BobHeart	♦ **WWE NXT** (Live)				♦ **DC News Now**		♦ Neighbor
66.1 WPXW (ION)	♦ Chicago Fire		♦ Chicago Fire		♦ Chicago Fire		♦ Chicago Fire		♦ Chicago
A&E	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	**Neighbor.**	**Neighbor.**	**Parent**	**Parent**	Parent
AMC	(5:00) Movie: Shawshank Redempt...		Movie: Die Hard ★★★ (1988) An officer single-handedly takes on a band of terrorists.						Movie: Die Hard 2 (...
Animal Planet	Rugged Justice		Yellowstone Wardens		Yellowstone Wardens		Yellowstone Wardens		Yellow
BET	(6:30) Movie: Barbershop 2: Back in Business (...				**Zatima**	**All the Queen's Men**	Zatima		Queen-M..
Bravo	The Valley		**The Valley**		**Next Gen NYC** (P)		**Watch What**	Next Gen NYC	
Cartoon Network	American	American	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy
CNN	**E. B. OutFront** (Live)		**Cooper 360** (Live)		**The Source** (Live)		**CNN** (Live)		**Laura**
Comedy Central	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	**DailyShow**
Discovery	Homestead Rescue		Homestead Rescue				**Red Bull Race**		Homeste..
Disney	Big City	Big City	Phineas and Ferb		Phineas	Phineas	Phineas	Phineas	Phineas
E!	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Office	Office	Office	**E! News**
ESPN	**ESPN Original Documentaries**				**Countd-own** (Live)	**WNBA Basketball** Dallas Wings at Seattle Storm (Live)			
ESPN2	ACC Huddle		**Greenland**	**Greenland**	NFL Live		**The Ultimate Fighter**		Cornhole
Food Network	Chopped		Chopped		**Cutthroat Kitc**		Cutthroat Kitc		Chopped
Fox News	**Ingraham** (Live)		**Jesse Watters** (Live)		**Hannity** (Live)		**Gutfeld!**		**Fox News**
Freeform	Movie: Tangled ★★★ (2010)				Movie: The Little Mermaid ★★★★ (1989)				**The 700 Club**
FX	(5:30) Movie: Ford v Ferrari ★★★ (2019)				Movie: Gone in 60 Seconds ★ (2000) A retired thief must steal 50 cars to save his brother.				
Hallmark	(6:00) Movie: October Kiss (2015)		Movie: My Argentine Heart (2025) Sparks fly between a woman and her ex in Argentina.				Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls
Hallmark M&M	(6:00) Aurora Teagarden Mysteries		Aurora Teagarden Mysteries				Murder, She Wrote		Murder ...
HBO	The Mortician		Movie: A Perfect Getaway ★★ (2009)		(:40) Movie: Mountainhead (2025)				
HGTV	Down Home Fab		**Down Home Fab**		**Castle Impossible**		**House**	House	House
History	Skinwalker Ranch		**Skinwalker** (SP)		**Skinwalker**	**Beyond** (SP)		(:35) Skinwalker	
Lifetime	Castle		Castle		Castle		(:05) Castle		(:05) Castle
MASN	(6:45) **Baseball** Chicago Cubs at Washington Nationals					**Nats Xtra**	Perfect	Fight Sports WCK	
Monumental	**WNBA Basketball**				**Mystics**	Mystics	WNBA Basketball		
MSNBC	**The Weeknight** (Live)		**All In With** (Live)		**The Briefing** (Live)		**Last Word** (Live)		**11th Hour**
MTV	Caught in Act		**Caught in Act**		**Caught**	(:55) Caught in Act		(:55) Caught in the	
Nat'l Geographic	Life Below Zero		Life Below Zero		**Life Below Zero**		Life Below Zero		Life Below
Nickelodeon	(6:00) Movie: Minions ...		Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
NWSN	**Vargas Report** (Live)		**Cuomo** (Live)		**On Balance** (Live)		**Banfield** (Live)		Cuomo
Paramount	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Movie: London Has Fallen ★★ (2016)				(:20) Movie: Top Gun: Maverick ★★★ (2022)		
Paramount+Sho	Movie: Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark ★★★★ (1981)				Movie: Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom ★★★ (1984)				Movie: Indiana ...
Syfy	(5:30) Movie: Fi...	Movie: Teen Wolf ★★ (1985) A family curse turns a high-school student into a werewolf.			Movie: Teen Wolf Too ★ (1987)				
TBS	**MLB Baseball** Cleveland Guardians at New York Yankees (Live)						**MLB Baseball**		
TCM	(6:00) Movie: A Little Romance (1979)		Movie: Some Like It Hot ★★★★ (1959)				(:15) Movie: Sweet Smell of Success ★★★ (1957)		
TLC	1000-lb Sisters		**1000-lb Sisters**		**1000-lb Sisters**		**1000-lb Roomies**		90Day
TNT	(5:30) Movie: Li...	**Pregame** (Live)	**Women's International Soccer Friendlies** USA vs. Jamaica (Live)				**Postga-me** (Live)	The Librarians: The Next Chapter	
Travel	The Holzer Files		Paranormal		Paranormal		Paranormal		Paranor..
TruTV	**MLB Baseball** Cleveland Guardians at New York Yankees (Live)						**MLB Baseball**		
TV Land	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	(:20) Raymond		Raymond	Raymond	(:05) King
TV One	CosbySh..	CosbySh..	Lv Single	Lv Single	Lv Single	Lv Single	Lv Single	Lv Single	Lv Single
USA Network	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law-SVU
VH1	Movie: New Jack City ★★★ (1991)					Movie: Boyz N the Hood ★★★ (1991)			
WNC8	FeelSexy	Pocket	Fed Gov	Fed Gov	**SportsTalk**	**WorldNe..**	**WJLANe..**	Joint	**National**

LEGEND: Bold indicates new or live programs ♦ High Definition
Movie Ratings (from TMS) ★★★★ Excellent ★★★ Good ★★ Fair ★ Poor No stars: not rated

SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

								4
		5	6	3	4			2
8				2		9	3	
		7		9		2	1	5
2	1			5			9	3
3	5	9		4		7		
	2	6		8				1
1			2	6	5	8		
5								

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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6/3

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PREVIOUS SUDOKU SOLUTION

7	1	4	6	8	9	2	3	5
6	8	9	2	5	3	7	4	1
3	5	2	1	4	7	8	6	9
8	6	1	9	3	5	4	2	7
4	2	3	8	7	1	5	9	6
5	9	7	4	2	6	1	8	3
2	3	6	5	1	8	9	7	4
1	7	8	3	9	4	6	5	2
9	4	5	7	6	2	3	1	8

SCRABBLEGRAMS

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A1	E1	L1	R1	Z10	W4	T1	Double Word Score
							RACK 1
A1	O1	Y4	T1	B3	C3	B3	
							RACK 2
A1	I1	U1	N1	D2	H4	N1	
							RACK 3
A1	E1	I1	R1	M3	F4	R1	1st Letter Triple
							RACK 4

PAR SCORE 155-165 **FOUR RACK TOTAL** ____
BEST SCORE 234 **TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN**

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com

06-03

PREVIOUS SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

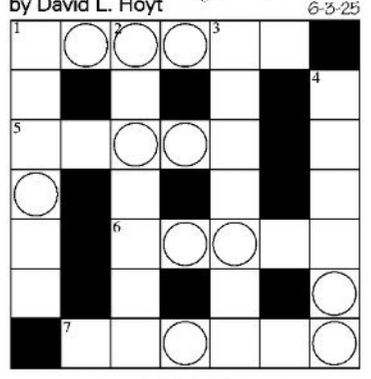
E1	A1	R1	M3	A1	R1	K5	RACK 1 =	63
E1	N1	R1	I1	C3	H4		RACK 2 =	11
A1	U1	G2	M3	E1	N1	T1	RACK 3 =	64
Y4	A1	R1	D2	A1	R1	M3	RACK 4 =	76

PAR SCORE 150-160 TOTAL 214

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt

6-3-25



ACROSS

CLUE
1. Strive
5. Rotate
6. Pale, pallid
7. Sweet liquid

ANSWER
RSEIAP
STTIW
HAENS
NRECTA

DOWN

CLUE
1. Real, true
2. ____ property
3. ____ set
4. "Blade ____"

ANSWER
UCTALA
EARIVTP
RCTETHA
NNRURE

BONUS CLUE: These date back to the early 1900s.

How to play: Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

ANSWERS: 1A-Aspire 5A-Tweet 6A-Ashen 7A-Nectar 1D-Actual 2D-Pirate 3D-Ratchet 4D-Runner B-Cruise ship

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Send comments to TCA - 560 W. Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60654 or DLHoyt@HoytInteractiveMedia.com

HOROSCOPE

BIRTHDAY | JUNE 3: You are pioneering and independent. You're intellectually restless and enjoy solitude. This is the last year of a nine-year cycle, which means it's time to take inventory. Let go of people, places and things that have held you back. Do internal and external housecleaning. Be more compassionate and loving.

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Virgo.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)
Tread carefully at work today or in conversations with care workers or with something regarding your pet. The reason you have to be careful is your emotions might overwhelm your intellect today. You might react without thinking. (Who, me?) You know who you are.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)
Let's hope you will remain positive (even playful perhaps) in the event that you encounter some disputes about money, possessions, who picks up the tab for something or who pays for a fun outing. This also might relate to costs associated with your kids.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)
Avoid controversial subjects with family members today. Little disputes and moments of nastiness could arise. It's simply not worth it, because by tomorrow, you might change your views completely. The challenge today is that your ruler Mercury is at odds with the Moon. (It's just something you have to deal with.)

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)
Sometimes you are called a Moon Child because the sign of Cancer is ruled by the Moon. Today the Moon is at odds with Mercury, the planet of communications. This means you could feel disgruntled with someone, but you might feel you can't speak up. Whatever the case, it could be frustrating.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)
Discussions about money or possessions might be challenging today, which is why you will feel the need to express your problems or your concerns with someone. Unfortunately, this is a poor day for communications of any kind. Be smart and postpone important discussions for another day.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Today the Moon is in your sign, which heightens your emotions. However, it also increases your good fortune, which is handy. Nevertheless, the Moon is at odds with Mercury, which makes your emotions grab hold of you and overrule your common sense. Oops.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
The key to keeping your peace of mind today and to maintaining a reasonable degree of harmony around you (which is important for your well-being, we both know) is to avoid controversial subjects. Avoid discussions about politics, religion or racial issues today. Do yourself this favor.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
You might be involved with a friend or a member of a group about funding, shared property, shared money or whether something is borrowed or overdue. Whatever the case, this might not go well. Be wise. Choose another day to fight for what you want. (But not today.)

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
This is a poor day to deal with bosses, parents or anyone in authority. Give these people a wide berth. Of course, we both know that when dealing with authority figures, sometimes it's better to ask for forgiveness than to ask for permission. This might be worth consideration.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You might be caught up in legal or medical matters today, or controversial discussions about politics or religion. Be smart. Don't stick your neck out. Listen to what others are saying and keep your thoughts to yourself. Meanwhile, you might entertain at home.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Discussions about who should pay for what, especially related to social outings, or the support or education of children, might be petty today. Someone might feel compelled to express your dissatisfaction with you. Or maybe you feel the need to air your grievances. Take it easy.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)
Today the Moon is opposite your sign at odds with Mercury, which is an indication that family discussions might be dicey. It's important to know that your views (about whatever's happening) might suddenly change. In fact, because this is likely, lighten up.

— Georgia Nicols

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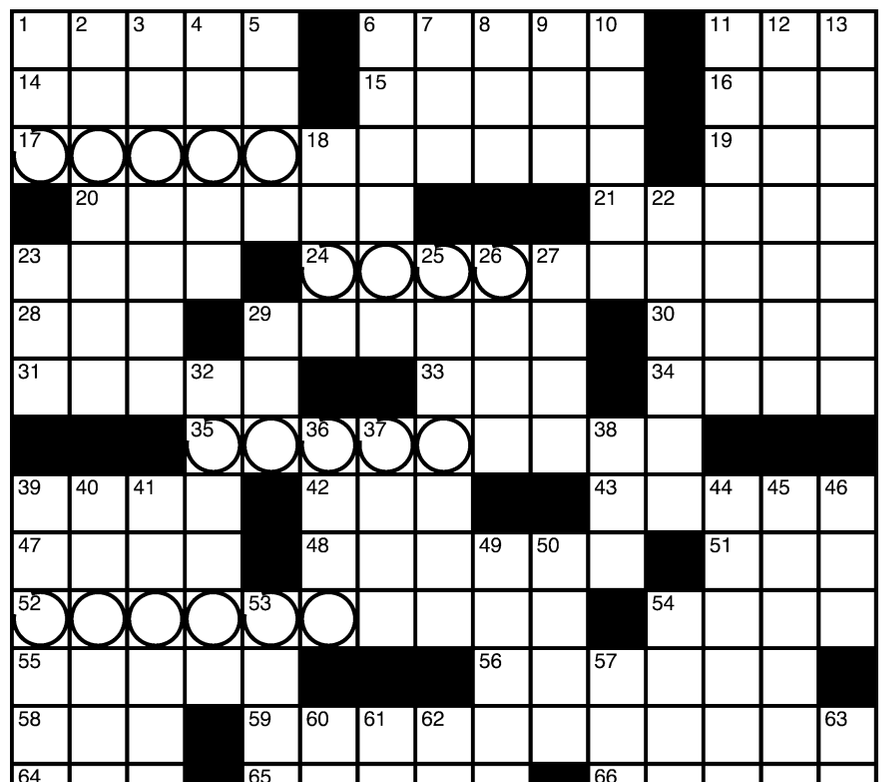
LA TIMES CROSSWORD

By George Simpson & Zhouqin Burnikel



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6/3/25

ACROSS
1 Island in the Gulf of Naples
6 Harbor vessels
11 Cookie container
14 "The Raven" poet Edgar __ Poe
15 Put a cap on
16 "One" prefix
17 Seasoning in a grinder
19 Involuntary movement
20 Baby garment
21 Express feelings onstage
23 Totally dominates
24 Exorcist's target
28 Word between surnames
29 Defiant retort
30 Tragic Shake-spearean king
31 More strange
33 Note between fa and la
34 In an aimless way
35 Phone setting that dims the screen
39 Army post
42 "Boo'd Up" singer Ella __
43 Charlotte __: creamy dessert
47 Smoothie bowl berry
48 Gym session dedicated to pushups, bicep curls, etc.
51 Gear tooth
52 Hush-hush agreement
54 "Yippee!"
55 Off the market
56 Niger or Nigeria
58 Dallas-to-Nashville dir.
59 Signs of fatigue, and what can be found in 17-, 24-, 35-, and 52-Across
64 Grab a chair
65 "Hamilton" Tony winner Renée __ Goldsberry
66 Compassionate words
67 Some Ph.D. students
68 Gently protest
69 Analyze, as a sentence

DOWN
1 Truck driver's spot
2 Not forbidden
3 Worked out in advance
4 Dashes and triathlons
5 Inserts for some printers
6 Cookie container
7 Joined at the __: inseparable
8 Little troublemaker
9 Round chart shape
10 Throat affliction
11 Taught one-on-one
12 J, F, or K, for JFK
13 "You almost tricked me!"
18 Fishing spot
22 Surroundings
23 "Bag Piece" artist Yoko
25 "No more stalling"
26 Weaving device
27 Flight student's milestone
29 D-backs, in box scores
32 Whole
36 Exam for future MBAs
37 Like a coconut shell
38 Like toast without butter
39 Superlative for Usain Bolt
40 Fiji's region
41 Tennis paddles
44 Erudite individual
45 Oklahoma State rivals
46 __ surfing
49 Dasher's teammate
50 Jai __
53 Reached a conclusion
54 Religion with covens
57 Stumble
60 Bitter pub drink
61 Glass edge
62 Sch. west of Topeka
63 "Didn't I tell you?"

MONDAY'S LA TIMES SOLUTION

P	I	T	A	S	■	E	D	I	T	■	B	F	F	S
I	C	A	N	T	■	D	O	R	A	■	E	R	I	E
S	I	N	K	O	R	S	W	I	M	■	C	A	F	E
M	E	T	H	R	E	E	■	S	P	R	A	Y	E	D
O	R	E	■	M	I	L	D	■	A	O	L	■	■	■
■	■	■	S	E	N	S	E	O	F	S	M	E	L	L
B	E	A	R	D	S	■	P	A	L	E	■	A	A	A
T	A	R	O	■	■	S	O	S	■	■	D	R	U	M
U	S	E	■	T	H	O	R	■	A	G	E	N	D	A
S	T	A	R	T	O	U	T	S	L	O	W	■	■	■
■	■	■	E	O	N	■	S	W	A	T	■	W	A	G
S	H	A	R	P	E	I	■	I	M	I	T	A	T	E
L	A	N	E	■	S	L	I	P	O	N	S	H	O	E
E	T	N	A	■	T	I	R	E	■	T	O	O	L	S
D	E	E	D	■	Y	E	A	R	■	O	S	O	L	E

BRIDGE

N-S VULNERABLE

NORTH (D)
♠ 8 7 3 2
♥ A Q 6
♦ A 7 3
♣ K 7 3

WEST
♠ K
♥ K 9 8 4
♦ Q 9 5
♣ Q J 10 6 2

EAST
♠ J 10 9
♥ J 10 5 2
♦ K J 4
♣ 9 5 4

SOUTH
♠ A Q 6 5 4
♥ 7 3
♦ 10 8 6 2
♣ A 8

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All Pass

Opening lead — ♣ Q

Procrastination is like a credit card, helpful and pleasant — until the end of the month when you get your statement. Still, when you're declarer, some things are better postponed.

Today's South jumped boldly to four spades, lusting after the vulnerable game bonus. He won the first club in dummy and led a trump, finessing with the queen.

That play turned out badly: West took his king, and East got a trump trick with the J-10. South avoided a heart loser by finessing with dummy's queen, but he lost two diamonds. Down one.

South could have executed a safety play in trumps by taking the ace before leading toward his queen. But South didn't know whether he could afford to play safe. If East had the king of hearts, South needed East to have K-x in trumps.

South should win the first club in his hand and lead a heart to the queen. If the finesse lost, South would later lead a trump to his queen. But when West has the king of hearts, South plays safe in trumps.

DAILY QUESTION
You hold:
♠ 8 7 3 2 ♥ A Q 6
♦ A 7 3 ♣ K 7 3
Your partner opens 1NT (16 to 18 points). The next player passes. What do you say?

ANSWER: This is no time to bid two clubs (Stayman) to look for a 4-4 spade fit, especially at IMP scoring, Chicago or party bridge. Bid 3NT. You have enough high-card strength to be confident that partner will win at least nine tricks at not-rump. A spade game might fail due to a terrible trump break or defensive ruffs.

— Frank Stewart

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CLASSIC DOONESBURY

GARRY TRUDEAU

MR. DUKE, I AM OVERWHELMED BY YOUR GIFT!
THE SCROLL IS A PRICELESS NATIONAL TREASURE, AND IT WILL BE MY GREAT HONOR TO RETURN IT TO THE NATIONAL MUSEUM IN BAGHDAD...
... FOR A MODEST FINDER'S FEE! MY FUTURE'S SECURE, AND I OWE IT ALL TO YOU, MY FRIEND! FARE THEE WELL!
SIR, WON'T THIS CREATE A POWER VACUUM?
SHH!
TURN OUT THE LIGHTS, OKAY?
Andrews McMeel Syndication ©2003 G.B. Trudeau
www.doonesbury.com

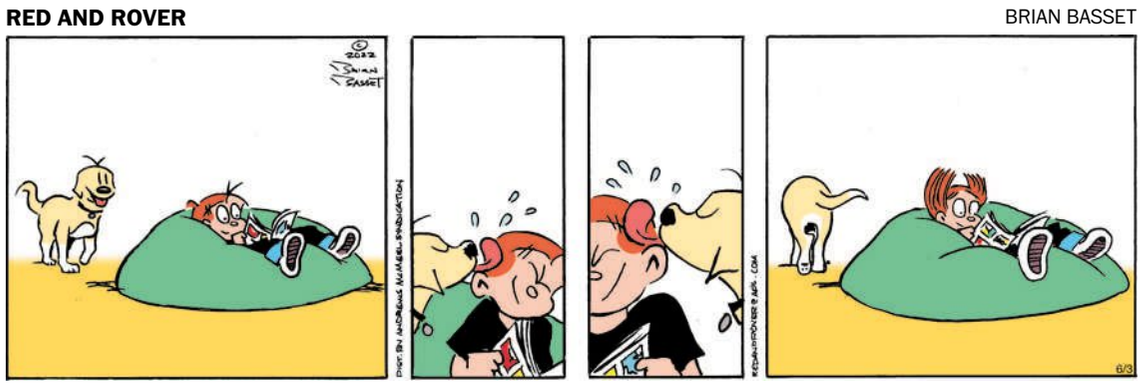
PICKLES

BRIAN CRANE

I GOT SO DESPERATE FOR SWEETS YESTERDAY I ATE SOME OLD MARSHMALLOW PEEPS LEFT OVER FROM EASTER.
I'VE DONE THAT BEFORE. I FOUND THEM UNDER A SOFA CUSHION, COVERED WITH LINT AND CRUMBS.
I FOUND MINE IN A DRAWER, STILL IN THE PACKAGE.
6/3
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF DESPERATE?

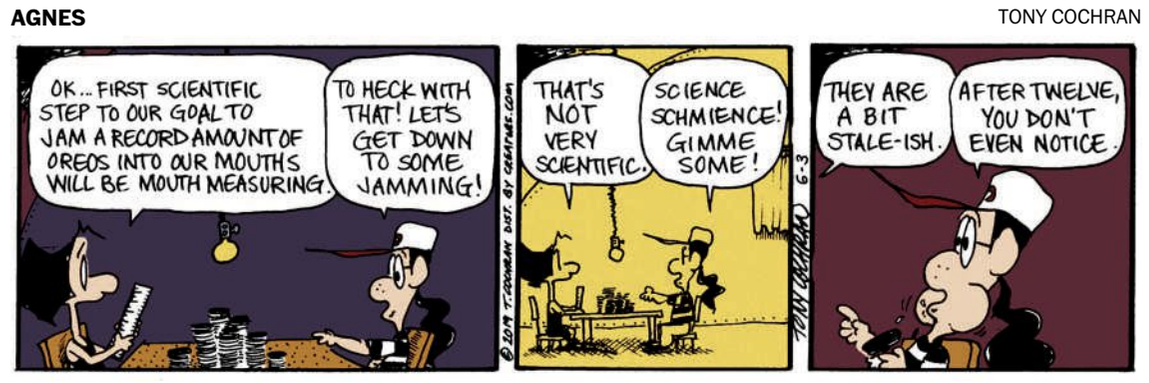
RED AND ROVER

BRIAN BASSET



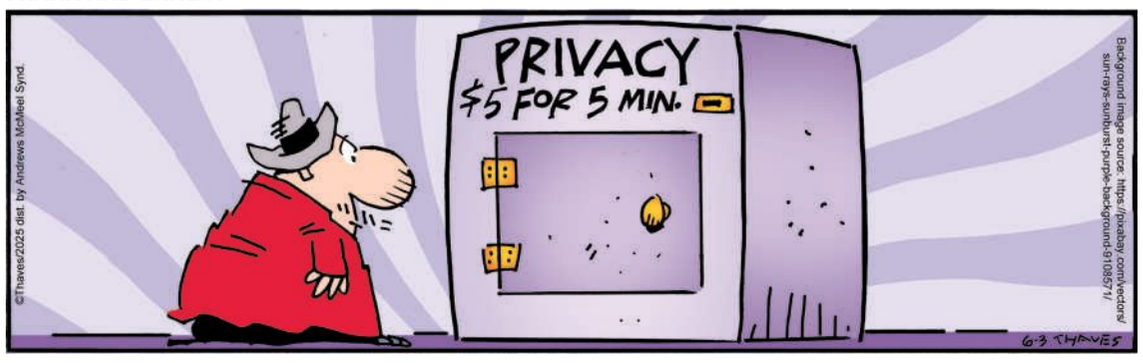
AGNES

TONY COCHRAN


OK... FIRST SCIENTIFIC STEP TO OUR GOAL TO JAM A RECORD AMOUNT OF OREOS INTO OUR MOUTHS WILL BE MOUTH MEASURING.
TO HECK WITH THAT! LET'S GET DOWN TO SOME JAMMING!
THAT'S NOT VERY SCIENTIFIC.
SCIENCE SCHMIENCE! GIMME SOME!
THEY ARE A BIT STALE-ISH.
AFTER TWELVE, YOU DON'T EVEN NOTICE.

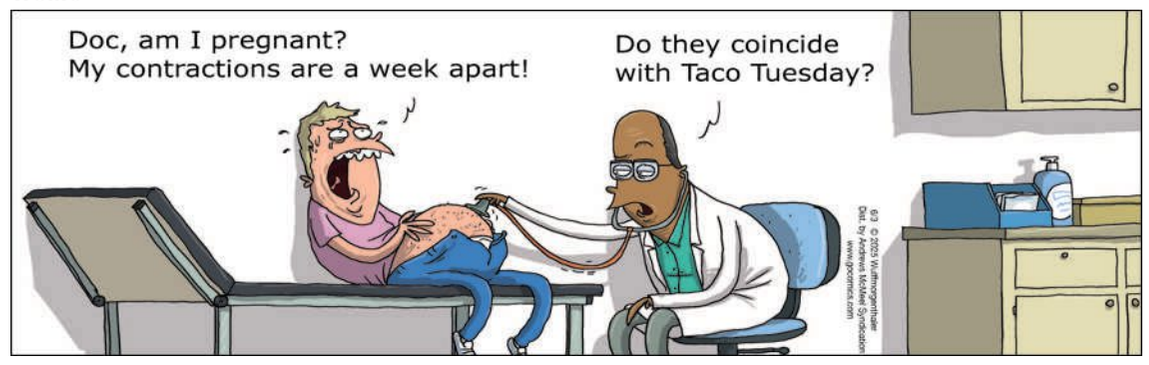
FRANK AND ERNEST

TOM THAVES



WUMO

MIKAEL WULFF & ANDERS MORGENTHALER


Doc, am I pregnant? My contractions are a week apart!
Do they coincide with Taco Tuesday?
6/3 © 2025 Wulff&Morgenthaler
Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
www.gocomics.com

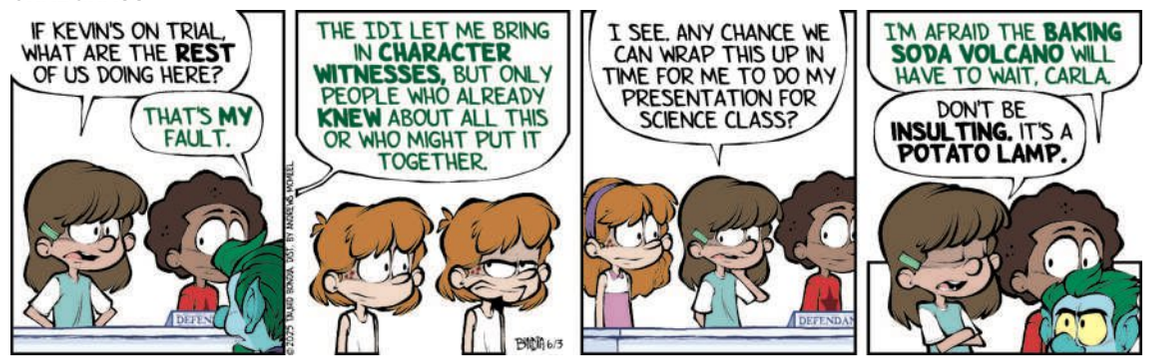
CLASSIC PEANUTS

CHARLES SCHULZ

WOODSTOCK, YOU'D HAVE MADE A GREAT CARRIER PIGEON! YOU COULD HAVE CARRIED MESSAGES BACK TO HEADQUARTERS...
IF YOU WERE CAPTURED, YOU WOULD REFUSE TO TALK EVEN IF YOU WERE TORTURED!
©1978 Peanuts Worldwide LLC. Dist. by Andrews McMeel
www.snoopy.com
KLUNK!
WELL, MAYBE YOU COULD TALK A LITTLE...
6/3

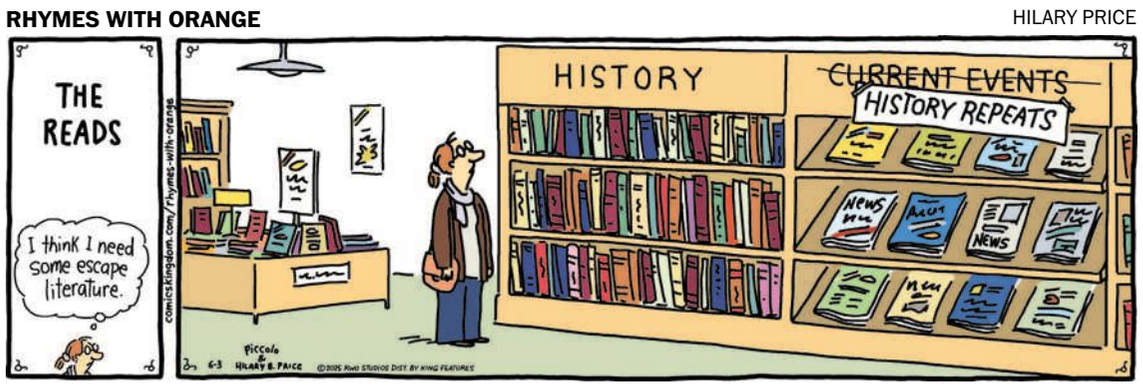
CRABGRASS

TAUHID BONDIA


IF KEVIN'S ON TRIAL, WHAT ARE THE REST OF US DOING HERE?
THAT'S MY FAULT.
THE IDI LET ME BRING IN CHARACTER WITNESSES, BUT ONLY PEOPLE WHO ALREADY KNEW ABOUT ALL THIS OR WHO MIGHT PUT IT TOGETHER.
I SEE. ANY CHANCE WE CAN WRAP THIS UP IN TIME FOR ME TO DO MY PRESENTATION FOR SCIENCE CLASS?
I'M AFRAID THE BAKING SODA VOLCANO WILL HAVE TO WAIT, CARLA.
DON'T BE INSULTING. IT'S A POTATO LAMP.

RHYMES WITH ORANGE

HILARY PRICE



MARK TRAIL

JULES RIVERA

THE GRUNGEY BOYS CONTINUE THEIR LAWN MOWER RACES AT NIGHT...
TERRORIZING THE FOREST...
BUT BEYOND THEIR LINE OF SIGHT...
...OUR HEROES RUSTY, OLIVE AND DIRK WAIT.
THIS RACE IS ABOUT TO HAVE A BIG FINALE!
06-03
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LIO

MARK TATULLI

6-3
Lio is throwing a party and you're invited! Bring your favorite party snack!
© 2025 Mark Tatulli/Distr. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
gocomics.com email: mlatulli@gmail.com
SCALDING HOT RIPPLE CHIPS
DEATH BY CHOCOLATE!

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

MIKE PETERS

BANK
I CAN ONLY CASH THIS CHECK IF YOU CAN IDENTIFY YOURSELF
YEP, THAT'S ME ALRIGHT
©2025 Grimmy, Inc. Distributed By Andrews McMeel Syndication

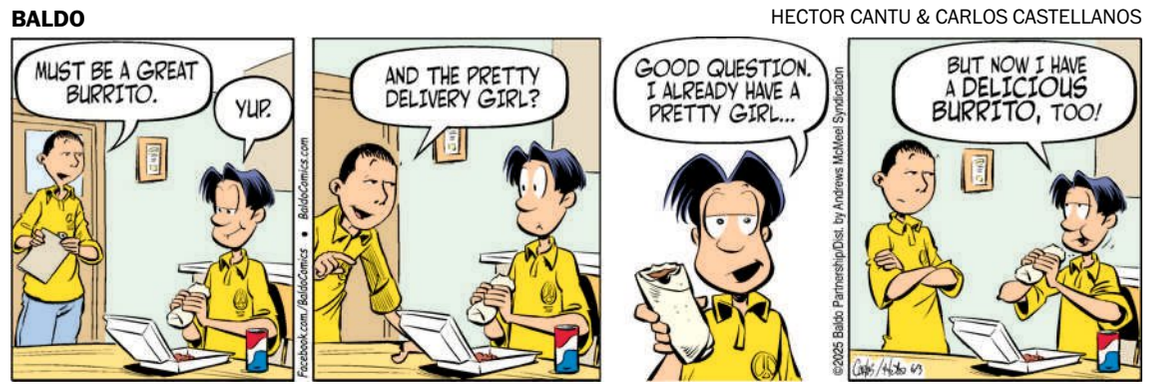
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

CHRIS BROWNE

HOW ARE YOUR DOG'S RABBIT-HUNTING SKILLS?
ARE YOU KIDDING?
VOOF VOOF
©2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
SNERT IS THE SMARTEST RABBIT DOG YOU'LL EVER SEE!
6-3

BALDO

HECTOR CANTU & CARLOS CASTELLANOS


MUST BE A GREAT BURRITO.
YUP.
AND THE PRETTY DELIVERY GIRL?
GOOD QUESTION. I ALREADY HAVE A PRETTY GIRL...
BUT NOW I HAVE A DELICIOUS BURRITO, TOO!
Facebook.com/BaldoComics • BaldoComics.com
©2025 Baldo Partnership Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication

BLONDIE

DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

MY NEW TRAINEE, FREDDIE, JUST GRADUATED FROM POSTAL SCHOOL!
WITH A BACHELOR OF STAMPS DEGREE!
IMPRESSIVE!
I DID MY THESIS ON ACCURACY IN DELIVERY!
THEN WHY DO I HAVE MY NEIGHBORS' POWER BILLS?!
JUST HANG IN THERE! IT'LL GET BETTER!
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www.Blondie.com
6-3

SALLY FORTH

FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE

EVERYONE READY FOR 12 INTENSIVE HOURS OF FINAL EXAM STUDYING?!
WE DO GET BREAKS, RIGHT?
WELL, BREAKDOWNS. BY THE END I USUALLY RUN SCREAMING INTO THE WOODS.
BEST TO KEEP REMINDING YOURSELF TOMORROW WILL EVENTUALLY COME.
HOW DID THIS PATIO TABLE GET SO LONG AND WHY ARE WE ALL SITTING ON THE SAME SIDE?
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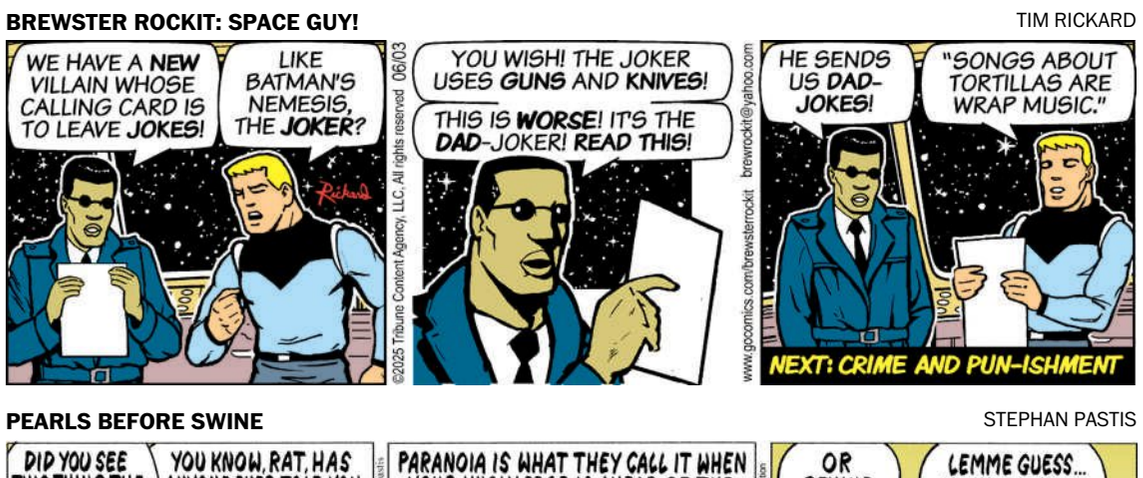
6-3
KEEFE

BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY!

TIM RICKARD


WE HAVE A NEW VILLAIN WHOSE CALLING CARD IS TO LEAVE JOKES!
LIKE BATMAN'S NEMESIS, THE JOKER?
YOU WISH! THE JOKER USES GUNS AND KNIVES!
THIS IS WORSE! IT'S THE DAD-JOKER! READ THIS!
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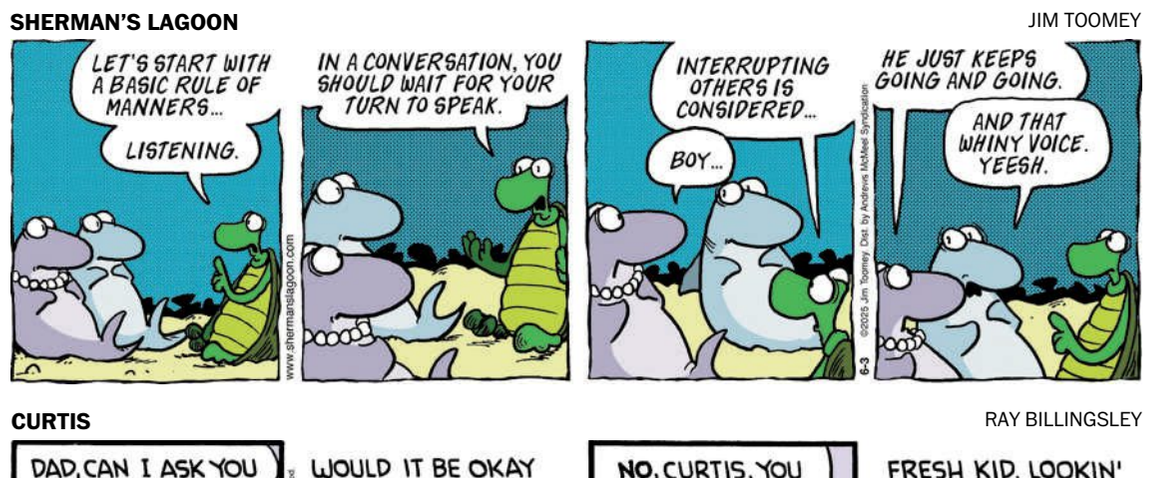
www.gocomics.com/brewsterrockit brewrockit@yahoo.com
HE SENDS US DAD-JOKES!
"SONGS ABOUT TORTILLAS ARE WRAP MUSIC."
NEXT: CRIME AND PUN-ISHMENT

SHERMAN'S LAGOON

JIM TOOMEY


LET'S START WITH A BASIC RULE OF MANNERS...
LISTENING.
IN A CONVERSATION, YOU SHOULD WAIT FOR YOUR TURN TO SPEAK.
www.shermanslagoon.com
INTERRUPTING OTHERS IS CONSIDERED...
BOY...
HE JUST KEEPS GOING AND GOING.
AND THAT WHINY VOICE. YEESH.
©2025 Jim Toomey Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
6-3

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

STEPHAN PASTIS

DID YOU SEE THIS THING THE GOVERNMENT IS SECRETLY DOING?
YOU KNOW, RAT, HAS ANYONE EVER TOLD YOU YOU MIGHT BE A LITTLE PARANOID?
twitter.com/stephanpastis instagram.com/stephanpastis
PARANOIA IS WHAT THEY CALL IT WHEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE IS AHEAD OF THE CURVE.
OR BEHIND.
LEMME GUESS... YOU'RE A C.I.A. PLANT.
©2025 Stephan Pastis/Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
5/3

CURTIS

RAY BILLINGSLEY

DAD, CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
WOULD IT BE OKAY TO INVOLVE MYSELF IN SOME ARTISTIC EPITHELIUM MODIFICATION?
NO, CURTIS, YOU CANNOT GET A TATTOO!
FRESH KID, LOOKIN' SO INNOCENT, THINKIN' HE'S SO SMART.
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6-3

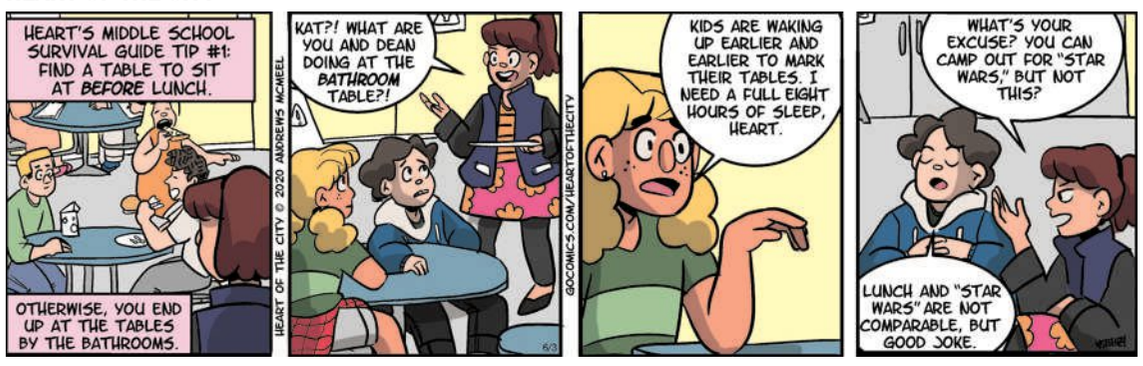
MUTTS PATRICK McDONNELL

HOW DOES YOUR OZZIE EXPECT You TO GUARD THE HOUSE FROM IN-TRUDERS?
6-3
WELL, MOOCH, I GUESS I'M SUPPOSED TO BARK A LOT AND THEY'LL RUN AWAY!
OF COURSHE!
mutts.com
THAT DOGGY BREATH IS PRETTY SHCARY.

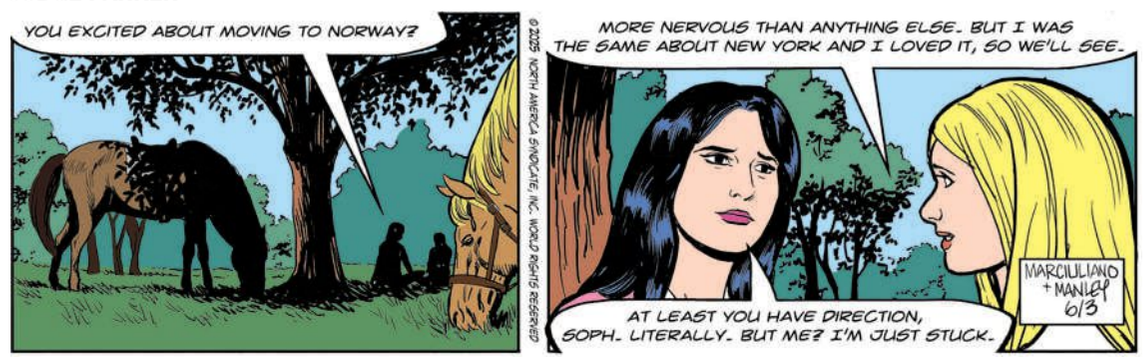
ZITS JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN

I'M GOING TO THE STORE. DO YOU BOYS NEED ANYTHING?
YES! GET US ONE OF EVERYTHING IN AISLE FOUR!
DO YOU THINK SHE KNEW I WAS JUST MESSING WITH HER?
I HOPE SO. AISLE FOUR IS FEMININE PRODUCTS.
SCOTT and BORGMAN 6/3
ZITSCOMICS.com

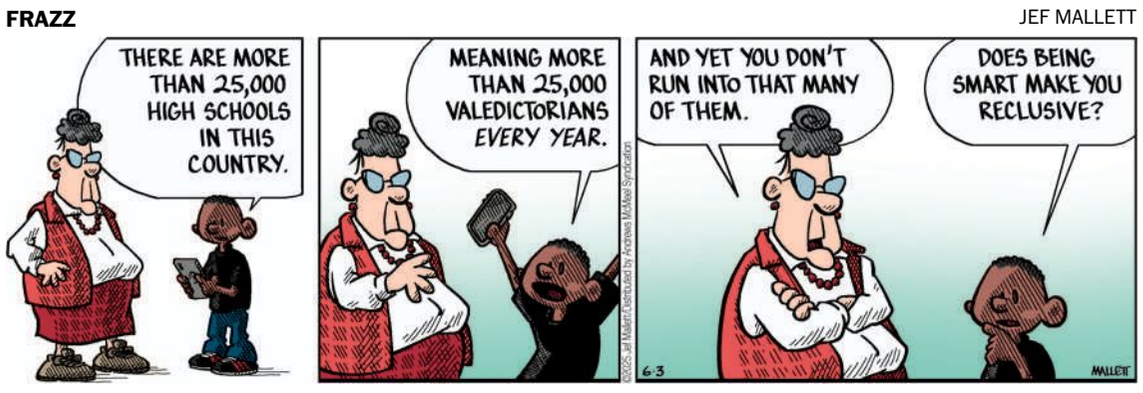
HEART OF THE CITY STEENZ


HEART'S MIDDLE SCHOOL SURVIVAL GUIDE TIP #1: FIND A TABLE TO SIT AT BEFORE LUNCH.
OTHERWISE, YOU END UP AT THE TABLES BY THE BATHROOMS.
KAT?! WHAT ARE YOU AND DEAN DOING AT THE BATHROOM TABLE?!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2020 ANDREWS MCMEEL
KIDS ARE WAKING UP EARLIER AND EARLIER TO MARK THEIR TABLES. I NEED A FULL EIGHT HOURS OF SLEEP, HEART.
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY
WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE? YOU CAN CAMP OUT FOR "STAR WARS," BUT NOT THIS?
LUNCH AND "STAR WARS" ARE NOT COMPARABLE, BUT GOOD JOKE.

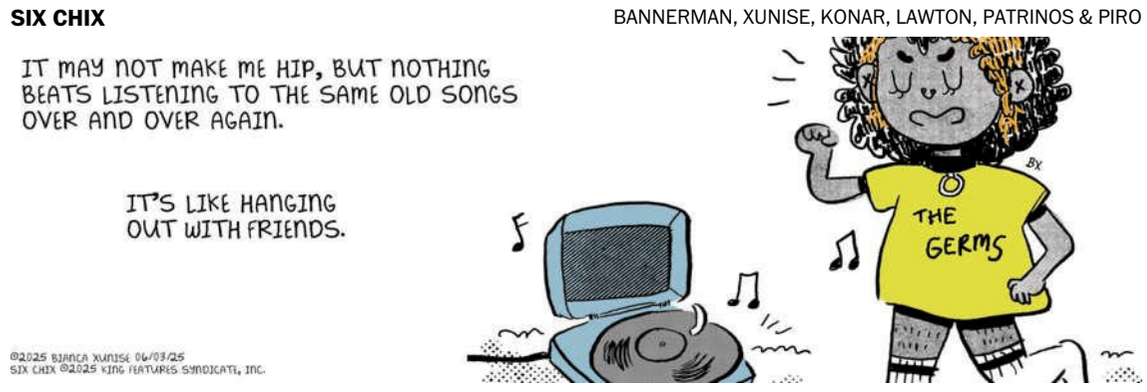
JUDGE PARKER FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & MIKE MANLEY


YOU EXCITED ABOUT MOVING TO NORWAY?
MORE NERVOUS THAN ANYTHING ELSE. BUT I WAS THE SAME ABOUT NEW YORK AND I LOVED IT, SO WE'LL SEE.
© 2025 NORTH AMERICA SYNDICATE, INC. WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED
AT LEAST YOU HAVE DIRECTION, SOPH. LITERALLY. BUT ME? I'M JUST STUCK.
MARCIULIANO + MANLEY 6/3

FRAZZ JEF MALLETT


THERE ARE MORE THAN 25,000 HIGH SCHOOLS IN THIS COUNTRY.
MEANING MORE THAN 25,000 VALEDICTORIANS EVERY YEAR.
AND YET YOU DON'T RUN INTO THAT MANY OF THEM.
DOES BEING SMART MAKE YOU RECLUSIVE?
6-3
MALLETT

SIX CHIX BANNERMAN, XUNISE, KONAR, LAWTON, PATRINOS & PIRO


IT MAY NOT MAKE ME HIP, BUT NOTHING BEATS LISTENING TO THE SAME OLD SONGS OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
IT'S LIKE HANGING OUT WITH FRIENDS.
THE GERMS
©2025 BIANCA XUNISE 06/03/25
SIX CHIX ©2025 KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, INC.

GARFIELD JIM DAVIS

YOU WANT OUT AGAIN?
YES
© 2025 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
I JUST LET YOU BACK IN
SO?
HOW MANY TIMES ARE WE GOING TO DO THIS?
HOW MANY TIMES UNTIL YOU SCREAM?
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
JIM DAVIS 6-3

BARNEY AND CLYDE WEINGARTENS & CLARK

So, I hear they are thinking of suspending habeas corpus.
Yes.
How do you feel about that?
Not bad.
Really?
I've never killed anyone.
So they can't find a body. I'm safe.
We probably should talk about this.

DUSTIN STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER

THIS DEGREE IN ENGLISH LITERATURE IS PRETTY USELESS. DID YOU STUDY ANYTHING ELSE WE CAN PUT ON YOUR RESUME?
dustincomics.com
I DID ALSO GET A MINOR DEGREE.
GREAT! WHAT IS IT?
HISTORY OF PUPPET ARTS.
NEVER MIND.
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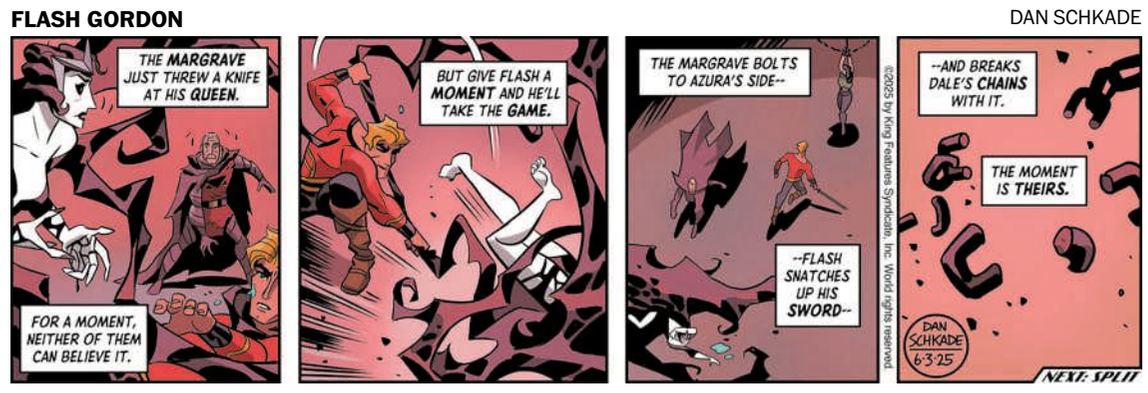
6/3

FLASH GORDON DAN SCHKADE


THE MARGRAVE JUST THREW A KNIFE AT HIS QUEEN.
FOR A MOMENT, NEITHER OF THEM CAN BELIEVE IT.
BUT GIVE FLASH A MOMENT AND HE'LL TAKE THE GAME.
THE MARGRAVE BOLTS TO AZURA'S SIDE--
--FLASH SNATCHES UP HIS SWORD--
--AND BREAKS DALE'S CHAINS WITH IT.
THE MOMENT IS THEIRS.
DAN SCHKADE 6-3-25
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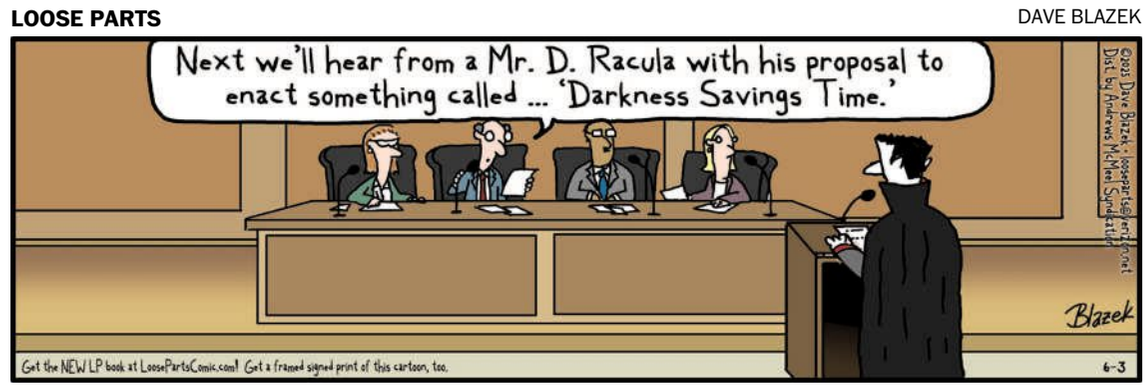
NEXT: SPLIT

PRICKLY CITY SCOTT STANTIS

LOOSE PARTS DAVE BLAZEK


Next we'll hear from a Mr. D. Racula with his proposal to enact something called ... 'Darkness Savings Time.'
©2025 Dave Blazek - looseparts@earthlink.net
Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
Blazek
Get the NEW LP book at LoosePartsComic.com! Get a framed signed print of this cartoon, too.
6-3

NON SEQUITUR WILEY

OK, GET EVERYONE IN HERE...I NEED CODDLING BEFORE THE MARKET CLOSES
THE REAL FUNCTION of STAFF MEETINGS
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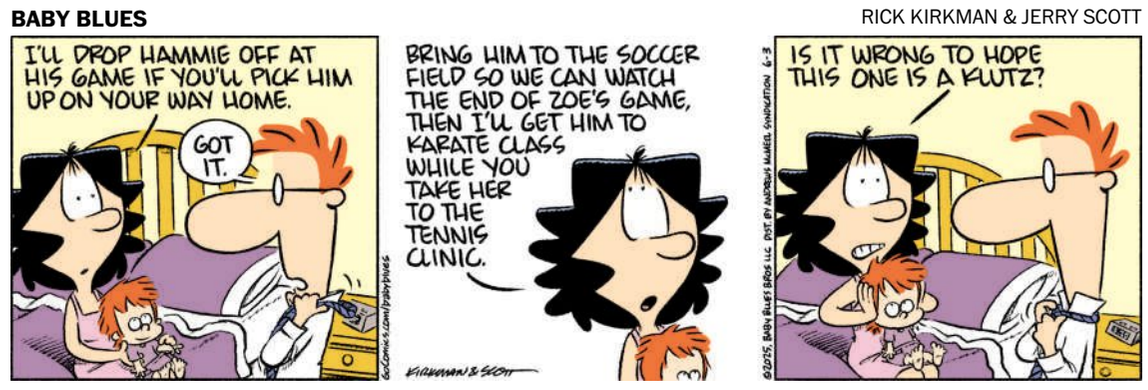
WILEY © 2025 Wiley Ink, Ltd. 6-3
GoComics.com
wileyink@earthlink.net

BABY BLUES RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT


I'LL DROP HAMMIE OFF AT HIS GAME IF YOU'LL PICK HIM UP ON YOUR WAY HOME.
GOT IT.
BRING HIM TO THE SOCCER FIELD SO WE CAN WATCH THE END OF ZOE'S GAME, THEN I'LL GET HIM TO KARATE CLASS WHILE YOU TAKE HER TO THE TENNIS CLINIC.
IS IT WRONG TO HOPE THIS ONE IS A KLUTZ?
©2025, BABY BLUES BROS LLC. DIST. BY ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION 6-3

BIG NATE LINCOLN PEIRCE

I KNEW IT! FRANCIS IS MAKING A BEELINE FOR GINA!
IT'S UP TO ME TO KEEP HIM FROM MAKING THE BIGGEST MISTAKE OF HIS LIFE!
IF I HAVE TO PHYSICALLY STOP HIM FROM TALKING TO HER, THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO!
WHAM!
visit bignate.com
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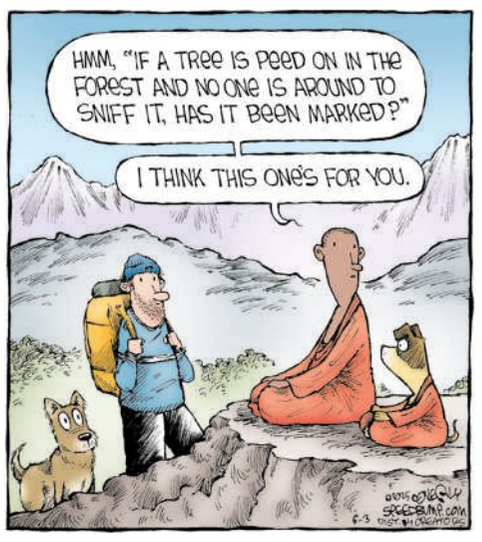
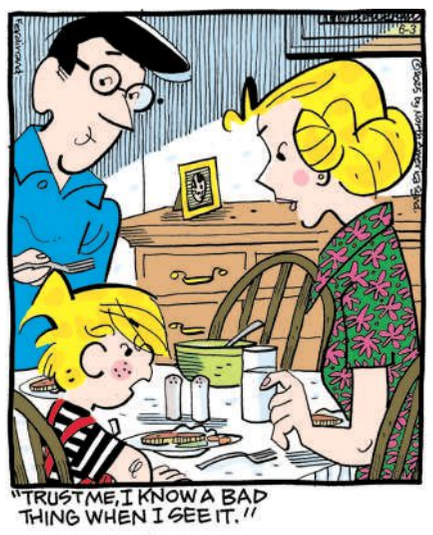
SPEED BUMP DAVE COVERLY


HMM, "IF A TREE IS PEED ON IN THE FOREST AND NO ONE IS AROUND TO SNIFF IT, HAS IT BEEN MARKED?"
I THINK THIS ONE'S FOR YOU.
SPEEDBUMP.COM
6-3

DENNIS THE MENACE H. KETCHAM



ON THE FASTRACK BILL HOLBROOK

6/3
CAN I CALL YOU BACK? I'M UNDER A DEADLINE SQUEEZE.
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FAMILY CIRCUS BIL KEANE

6-3
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Bil and JEFF KEANE
"Grandma says not to worry about finding the diamond you lost 'cause she'll say a prayer to St. Anthony."

REPLY ALL LITE DONNA A. LEWIS

BEETLE BAILEY GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER

IF YOU CAN'T SAY SOMETHING NICE ABOUT MY SPEECH...
GREG+MORT WALKER
6/3
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DON'T SAY ANYTHING AT ALL
HOW ABOUT BOOING?
RAZZING ?
OR JEERING ?

The Washington Post
SPORTS
TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025 SU D

Nats' Henry almost quit. Now he is a stopper.

Rookie battled injuries to become a top reliever

BY SPENCER NUSBAUM

Cole Henry had to push through.

The mild-mannered 25-year-old missed most of 2021 and 2022 with elbow injuries — and he was later determined to have thoracic outlet syndrome, the same affliction that ended Stephen Strasburg's career. That led to an off-and-on 2023. So that pinch in his armpit last spring? He told himself it wasn't an injury. Couldn't be. And frankly, if it was, he didn't care.

He kept pitching until he couldn't anymore.

In May 2024, he was diagnosed with a mild strain of his lat muscle. A month later, when he was supposed to return, he couldn't get his right arm to whip forward. "Like my body was trying to protect myself," Henry said. He would grunt and clench his teeth, and the radar gun would read 86 mph. Imaging revealed a strain in both his lat and triceps muscles. His season was over early. Again.

"I'm just sitting in the room in [Class AA] Harrisburg with my wife, and, like, I don't know what's going on," Henry said. "Like, I just can't seem to catch a break. I feel like I do as much as I possibly can to try to stay healthy and be on the field. But it just doesn't work out the way you plan sometimes.

"So yeah, I think at that point I was kind of like, 'Eff this,'" he said. "Maybe my baseball dreams were starting to come to a close.'"

Eleven months later, not only are his baseball dreams not over — they're fully realized. Sure, he never imagined his first appearance in the majors would be out of the bullpen. He was LSU's ace not so long ago and didn't convert to a full-time role in relief until this spring. He has been one of baseball's best relievers since. Across his first two months in the majors, Henry has a 2.14 ERA and has not allowed a run in 17 of his 18 appearances. He held opponents to a .070 batting average in May.

"He just goes out there like he's 10 feet tall," teammate Zach Brzykcy said.

"He doesn't seem overwhelmed by any moment," closer Kyle Finnegan said.

"He's known that it was the health that really slowed him down a little bit," Manager Dave

SEE NATIONALS ON D2

Cubs at Nationals
6:45 p.m., MASN

MARK J. TERRILL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Aaron Judge is having another MVP-caliber year for the Yankees, who despite pitching injuries could be headed toward a World Series rematch with the Dodgers.

MLB season digs in

Yankees are still the AL's best hope to topple the Dodgers and other things we have learned

On Baseball
CHELSEA JANES

The calendar has flipped to June, which means that while it's still early in the Major League Baseball season, it's getting late fast. Early-spring struggles are either forgotten or threatening to become summer disasters, and teams are starting to sort themselves into trade deadline buyers and sellers. Plenty of time remains, but for now, here are five things we have learned before the midseason grind begins.

Yankees are still the class of the AL

(And Aaron Judge is the American League MVP)

The reigning American League champion New York Yankees dropped two of three games to the Los Angeles Dodgers this past weekend in what felt like a telling World Series rematch that also might prove to be a World Series preview. So while their ability to beat the National League's best team when it matters remains a question, their status as the AL's most formidable challenger does not.

The Yankees entered play Monday with the best OPS in the AL. Their rotation is pitching to a 3.54 ERA despite losing Gerrit Cole for the season and last year's AL rookie of the year, right-hander Luis Gil, for the entirety of the season to date. Their bullpen is averaging more strikeouts per nine innings than all but two others in baseball despite the early-season implosion of projected closer Devin Williams.

They also begin June with the best hitter in baseball, hands down, no arguments permitted. Judge, the reigning AL MVP, has been better than ever and will open the first full week of June hitting .391 with 21 homers and a 1.249 OPS that is 200 points higher than the next closest hitter's.

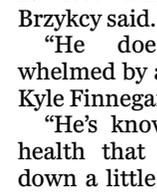
In fact, the only thing the Yankees do not have is the best record in the AL. Speaking of which ...

Tigers are very, very good

The date is June 3, and the Detroit

SEE ON BASEBALL ON D3

Thunder is scary young, scary different and scary good



Jerry Brewer

Follow the NBA — or anything, really — for too long, and your brain gets sentenced to myopia. You think about the game one way, honoring outworn rules and traditions and beliefs, shunning innovation as radical behavior. You can read hundreds of quotes about change and arrive only at the submissive conclusion that it's too difficult of an aspiration.

That's partly why, despite its burgeoning greatness, the Oklahoma City Thunder has been greeted with skepticism until now. It defies two NBA axioms that we refuse to let go.

Young teams don't win championships.

And in a league full of skilled players, it's perilous to rely on a defensive system that overemphasizes ball pressure and creating turnovers.

In the face of convention, the Thunder has fashioned a distinct style of play by turning those no-nos into its greatest assets. Its youth is a blessing. When the season began, its average age was 24.7. If you limit it to the 14 players who have appeared in playoff games, it shrinks to 24.4.

SEE BREWER ON D8

NBA Finals: Game 1
Pacers at Thunder
Thursday, 8:30 p.m., ABC

MATTHEW STOCKMAN/GETTY IMAGES

Aaron Wiggins (21), MVP Shai Gilgeous-Alexander (2) and Oklahoma City defy NBA conventions.

France's Boisson wows home crowd with upset

Wild card ranked 361st stuns No. 3 seed Pegula to reach quarterfinals

BY JEROME PUGMIRE
Associated Press

PARIS — Loïs Boisson had never played at the French Open, let alone in the biggest arena at Roland Garros. Nothing fazed the French wild-card entry, and now she is in the quarterfinals. Boisson, ranked just 361st, threw her head back and roared after she beat No. 3 seed Jessica Pegula, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4, on Court Philippe-Chatrier in the fourth round Monday.

She is by far the lowest-ranked woman to beat someone ranked in the top five at the French Open in 40 years. The lowest previously in that span was No. 179 Aniko Kapros, who eliminated No. 5 Justine Henin in the first round in 2002.

Boisson also is the lowest-ranked woman to reach the quarterfinals at Roland Garros since at least 1985.

Quite a victory, considering Pegula was the U.S. Open runner-up last year. Understandably, Boisson was nervous as she served for the match and saved three break points.

After Pegula missed an easy-looking winner at the net and clutched her head in her hands, Boisson had her first match point, the biggest point of her career.

Pegula returned a strong serve to the back of the court, where Boisson unleashed a forehand winner down the line. She then raised her arms and realized the enormity of her win.

"Thank you to all of you," Boisson told the crowd in her post-match interview. "Playing

SEE FRENCH OPEN ON D4

French Open quarterfinals
5 a.m., TNT

HORSE RACING
Journalism and Sovereignty renew their rivalry as the favorites at the Belmont Stakes. D2

COLLEGE BASEBALL
Brian O'Connor, who led Virginia to seven CWS trips, is leaving the Cavs for Mississippi State. D2

THE DAY IN SPORTS

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Virginia's O'Connor leaves for an SEC job

Brian O'Connor, who led Virginia to seven College World Series appearances and the 2015 national title, is leaving to take over at Mississippi State.

Mississippi State announced O'Connor's hiring Sunday night, a few hours after the Bulldogs' season-ending loss to Florida State in the NCAA tournament.

O'Connor, 54, won 917 games over 22 seasons at Virginia; he was named national coach of the year three times and ACC coach of the year five times. Under O'Connor, the Cavaliers played in 18 NCAA tournament regionals and nine super regionals.

Mississippi State fired seventh-year coach **Chris Lemonis** on April 28. Lemonis led the Bulldogs to the 2021 national title, but they mostly struggled since. **Justin Parker** took over as interim coach and helped the Bulldogs finish 36-23.

O'Connor's Cavaliers went 32-18 and missed the NCAA field for the first time since 2019.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Oklahoma's reign ends in a loss to Texas Tech

Oklahoma's run of dominance at the Women's College World Series — four straight titles — ended when **Lauren Allred**'s sacrifice fly gave Texas Tech a 3-2 victory in the semifinals Monday night in Oklahoma City.

The Sooners were down to their last strike in the top of the seventh inning when **Abigale Dayton** hit a tying two-run homer against Red Raiders ace **NiJaree Canady**. But the Red Raiders responded in the bottom half. **Mihyia Davis** singled with one out, and **Hailey Toney** followed with a double. Allred hit a flyball to right field; the throw to the plate was wide, allowing Davis to score easily.

In its first trip to the WCWS, Texas Tech will face Texas in the best-of-three championship series starting Wednesday night. The Longhorns, who defeated Tennessee, 2-0, earlier Monday, reached the finals for the third time in the past four years.

GOLF

Caddie-less Homa can't reach U.S. Open

Max Homa stood out during a U.S. Open qualifier in Columbus, Ohio, filled with PGA Tour players: He was the only one carrying his own bag. Homa didn't have a caddie and didn't feel like talking about it.

He and his caddie of two months, **Bill Harke**, are no longer together, according to a person informed of the split who said only that Harke "lost his job." The person spoke with the Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because word of the separation needed to come from Homa. And Homa didn't offer much insight.

"I'd much rather talk about the golf," he said. "... I'm good. Just hoofed it 36."

Homa wound up hoofing it 38. His three-putt for par on his 36th hole at Kinsale put him in a five-man playoff for the final U.S. Open spot, and **Cameron Young** won with a 12-foot birdie. Homa then lost a playoff for an alternate spot on the next hole.

The drama went from coast to coast — and even into Canada — with 47 U.S. Open spots available at 10 qualifying sites. **Erik van Rooyen** opened with a 64 at Kinsale and had no trouble getting to Oakmont for the U.S. Open. He wound up six shots ahead of the field.

Thorbjorn Olesen and **Emiliano Grillo** were among the seven qualifiers in Toronto, where **Kevin Velo** led the field.

Most of the LIV Golf players who tried to qualify — or thought about it, anyway — were competing for four spots at Woodmont Country Club in Rockville. **Marc Leishman**, who has not qualified for a major in the past two years since he joined LIV, beat out fellow LIV player **Sebastian Munoz** to earn a spot. **Ryan McCormick**, **Trevor Cone** and Fairfax County's **Bryan Lee** took the others.

Fifteen LIV players originally were in the Woodmont field. Five did not turn in cards when it was clear they wouldn't make it. Five others, including **Bubba Watson** and **Lee Westwood**, withdrew before the competition began.

SARAH PHIPPS/IMAGN IMAGES

End of an era

Texas Tech's 3-2 victory in the Women's College World Series semifinals eliminated four-time defending champion Oklahoma.

SPOTLIGHT: HORSE RACING

At Belmont, Journalism remains the favorite

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. — Kentucky Derby runner-up and Preakness Stakes winner Journalism opened as the 8-5 favorite in the Belmont Stakes when post positions were drawn Monday for the final leg of the Triple Crown.

Derby winner Sovereignty was the second choice on the morning line at odds of 2-1 and drew the No. 2 post. Journalism, near the outside with the No. 7 post, is the only horse running in all three Triple Crown races.

"He's been kind of the same horse since July of last summer," trainer Michael McCarthy said. "He does everything you'd ask a good horse to do: He eats well, trains well, acts well."

Sovereignty is back after trainer Bill Mott and the horse's owners opted to skip the Preakness, and things have gone swimmingly since he arrived at Saratoga Race Course.

"We've been very lucky with everything that's gone on since he's been here," Mott said.

The presence of Sovereignty and Journalism sets up the Belmont, the second staged at Saratoga amid renovations to the race's usual home on Long Island, as a Kentucky Derby rematch.

"He's improved as I think many of these horses have," Mott said of Sovereignty. "I think this entire group, if you look at their form and the way they've developed over the course of this year, I think they've made steady progress, and it should be an interesting race."

No. 6 Baeza, who finished third in the Kentucky Derby, opened at 4-1. Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert's Rodriguez, who was scratched from the Derby because of a minor foot bruise and then was held out of the Preakness, was next at 6-1 and will leave the No. 3 post.

The field of eight also includes No. 8 Heart of Honor, who is tied for the longest shot at 30-1 after finishing fifth in the Preakness. New to the Triple Crown trail: No. 1 Hill Road (10-1), No. 4 Uncaged (30-1) and No. 5 Crudo (15-1).

Belmont Stakes

Post time: 7:04 p.m. Saturday (Fox)

1. Hill Road (10-1)
2. Sovereignty (2-1)
3. Rodriguez (6-1)
4. Uncaged (30-1)
5. Crudo (15-1)
6. Baeza (4-1)
7. Journalism (8-5)
8. Heart of Honor (30-1)

TELEVISION AND RADIO

MLB

6:45 p.m.	**Chicago Cubs at Washington** » MASN, WJFK (106.7 FM)
7 p.m.	**Cleveland at New York Yankees** » TBS
9:30 p.m.	**Baltimore at Seattle** » MASN2, WIYY (97.9 FM), WSBN (630 AM)
10 p.m.	**New York Mets at Los Angeles Dodgers** » TBS

WNBA

7 p.m.	**Washington at Indiana** » Monumental Sports Network, WTEM (980 AM)
9:30 p.m.	**Dallas at Seattle** » ESPN

SOCCER

1 p.m.	**Concacaf women's under-20 championship, group stage: Puerto Rico vs. Guyana** » Fox Sports 2
1 p.m.	**UEFA Women's Nations League, group stage: England at Spain** » CBS Sports Network
4 p.m.	**Concacaf women's under-20 championship, group stage: United States at Costa Rica** » Fox Sports 2
8 p.m.	**Women's friendly: Jamaica at United States** » TNT, Universo

TENNIS

5 a.m.	**French Open, quarterfinals** » TNT

MISC.

Eagles' Barkley leaps onto Madden cover

Philadelphia Eagles running back **Saquon Barkley** is the cover athlete for EA Sports' "Madden NFL 26."

Barkley's sensational backward hurdle over a defender during last year's Super Bowl-winning season is depicted on the game's standard cover. The deluxe edition features a tight shot of Barkley in game-day gear.

Barkley set the NFL single-season rushing record — playoffs included — with 2,504 yards, topping the mark of 2,476 set by the Denver Broncos' **Terrell Davis** in 1998. ...

Detroit center **Frank Ragnow**, a four-time Pro Bowl selection who was key to Coach **Dan Campbell**'s Lions revival, announced his retirement from the NFL after seven seasons.

Ragnow, 29, said on social media that he has tried to convince himself he's feeling well enough to play, "but I'm not," he said. In 2021, following a season in which Ragnow played with a fractured throat, General Manager **Brad Holmes** made him the league's highest-paid center at the time with a four-year, $54 million extension. ...

Florida Panthers captain **Aleksander Barkov** claimed two more major honors as he pursues another Stanley Cup title.

Barkov won the King Clancy Trophy, awarded to the player who combines leadership on and off the ice with humanitarian work, and the Selke Trophy, which is given to the NHL's best defensive forward.

It was the third Selke and the first King Clancy for Barkov, whose Panthers will try to defend their title when the Stanley Cup finals start Wednesday night in Edmonton.

— From news services

After injuries threatened career, Henry has been healthy addition to Nats' bullpen

NATIONALS FROM D1

Martinez said. "His stuff is good. The fact that he's coming up here now and doing what he's doing doesn't really surprise me. But I'm happy for him because he endured a lot trying to get here. Now it's all about keeping him healthy."

After four years on the injured list, though, Henry has had to wrestle with the idea that an injury could be right around the corner. Teammates understand what he's going through.

"It's always in the back of your mind that you were hurt and that what you're doing right now is what hurt you in the first place," said Brzykcy, who underwent Tommy John surgery in April 2023. "Other guys I talked to, one of the main things they said is not to baby it. It's fixed. It's good. You've done all this stuff to get back to where you are. So just trust it and let it rip, pretty much."

For Henry, reaching the point that he could "let it rip" was a mental battle more than a physical one. He talked the situation through with his dad, Jeff, a former minor league pitcher who worked two or three jobs at a time to provide for his family. He missed vacations, Henry said, "just to make sure we were happy."

His advice, then, was rather obvious and on the nose — sulking wasn't going to solve anything. Henry talked it through with his wife, Brinley, who allowed him to be vulnerable. They would take their dogs on long walks, keeping everything in perspective.

CHRIS CODUTO/GETTY IMAGES

Cole Henry, a former starter, is having a stellar rookie season in his first year as a relief pitcher.

Finally, Henry saw a fork in the road. The future was fuzzy at the end of both paths. Down one, the one where he quit, he knew he would look back on this time and think, "What was I doing?" Down the other, he saw himself reaching back to throw a fastball, then trying to put something extra on his slider.

He was going to try that. He was going to leave it up to fate. Harder than it sounds? Not quite, Henry said.

"I mean, we leave stuff up to fate as a pitcher every single day, right?" he said. "As soon as that ball leaves your hand, you can't control what happens." His teammate, veteran lefty Andrew Chafin, often describes pitching as, "You just throw it and hope for the best." He could get on board with that.

This spring, Henry was finally healthy. He wasn't feeling sorry for himself anymore. The Nationals sent him to Harrisburg, then moved him up to Rochester before he could even throw a pitch. A week later, he was on a flight to Miami for his Nationals debut. (He profusely credited and thanked Brinley for making sure all that travel went smoothly.)

Since then, the Nationals have liked what they have seen. Henry's fastball cuts to the arm-side six inches more than that of the average reliever. His curveball cuts more than two feet in the opposite direction. Though his walk rate (10.3 percent) is a touch high, FanGraphs' Location+ model says he is one of the best in baseball when it comes to putting his pitches in the right place. He has earned the respect of his peers, alongside fellow young relievers Brad Lord and Jackson Rutledge.

Now, after all that struggle, he runs out from Washington's bullpen — in increasingly high-leverage situations — with Green Day's "Brain Stew" blaring at his back and without a hint of fear in his eyes.

"You talk to any one of these guys, we all have a process, a thing we have to do to make ourselves withstand this long season," Henry said. "It's a very long season. It's tough on everybody's bodies. Some guys might be playing [with] injuries. Some guys might be playing hurt. It's just part of it. We know what we're getting ourselves into."

NATIONALS ON DECK

vs. Chicago Cubs

Tuesday	6:45	MASN
Wednesday	6:45	MASN
Thursday	6:45	MASN

vs. Texas Rangers

Friday	6:45	MASN
Saturday	4:05	MASN
Sunday	1:35	MASN

at New York Mets

June 10	7:10	MASN
June 11	7:10	MASN
June 12	1:10	MASN

Radio: WJFK (106.7 FM), WDCN (87.7 FM)

BASEBALL

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
x-New York	37	22	.627	—	8-2	W-3
Philadelphia	36	23	.610	1	5-5	L-4
Washington	28	31	.475	9	6-4	L-1
Atlanta	27	31	.466	9½	3-7	L-1
Miami	23	35	.397	13½	4-6	L-2

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Chicago	37	22	.627	—	8-2	W-2
St. Louis	33	26	.559	4	6-4	L-1
Milwaukee	33	28	.541	5	8-2	W-8
Cincinnati	29	32	.475	9	4-6	L-3
Pittsburgh	22	38	.367	15½	5-5	L-1

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
x-Los Angeles	36	23	.610	—	6-4	L-1
x-San Diego	33	24	.579	2	6-4	W-1
x-San Francisco	33	26	.559	3	4-6	W-1
Arizona	28	31	.475	8	2-8	W-1
Colorado	10	50	.167	26½	2-8	W-1

x-Late game

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
New York	36	22	.621	—	7-3	W-1
Toronto	31	28	.525	5½	6-4	W-5
Tampa Bay	30	29	.508	6½	7-3	L-1
Boston	29	33	.468	9	3-7	L-1
Baltimore	22	36	.379	14	6-4	W-3

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Detroit	40	21	.656	—	7-3	W-2
Cleveland	32	26	.552	6½	6-4	W-2
x-Minnesota	31	27	.534	7½	4-6	L-2
Kansas City	31	29	.517	8½	4-6	L-1
Chicago	18	42	.300	21½	3-7	L-4

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Seattle	32	26	.552	—	4-6	W-2
Houston	32	27	.542	½	7-3	W-1
Texas	29	31	.483	4	4-6	W-1
Los Angeles	27	32	.458	5½	3-7	W-1
x-Athletics	23	37	.383	10	1-9	L-6

x-Late game

NATIONALS' LEADERS

Entering Tuesday's game.

	AVG	OBA	H	HR	RBI	BB	SO
Lipscomb	.500	.500	2	0	0	0	1
Rosario	.303	.333	27	2	12	2	14
Wood	.286	.385	64	16	44	36	72
Abrams	.273	.346	50	8	19	13	39
Ruiz	.269	.308	53	2	22	8	21
Hassell	.268	.268	11	1	6	0	11
Call	.267	.380	28	0	14	18	19
Tena	.254	.321	30	0	13	12	27
García	.247	.293	46	5	25	12	27
Lowe	.230	.300	52	8	40	22	67
Young	.227	.309	25	0	6	11	19
Lile	.214	.281	6	0	2	2	7
DeJong	.204	.246	11	0	2	2	24
Crews	.196	.266	31	7	15	11	48
Nuñez	.194	.275	7	0	4	4	8
Bell	.185	.284	32	9	22	21	42
Adams	.135	.135	5	2	6	0	17

	W	L	ERA	IP	H	ER	SO
Chafin	0	0	2.00	9.0	10	2	13
Henry	0	0	2.14	21.0	11	5	21
Finnegan	0	1	2.61	20.2	19	6	18
Gore	2	5	3.16	68.1	61	24	101
Irvin	5	1	3.93	73.1	66	32	47
Lord	1	5	4.14	41.1	44	19	39
Parker	4	5	4.71	65.0	57	34	42
Rutledge	1	1	5.01	23.1	24	13	25
Ferrer	2	2	5.40	30.0	32	18	25
Williams	3	5	5.69	55.1	65	35	43
Soroka	2	3	5.81	31.0	32	20	28
Ribalta	0	0	5.87	7.2	5	5	6
Brzykcy	0	0	7.27	8.2	10	7	8
Salazar	0	1	9.18	16.2	28	17	12
Poche	1	2	11.42	8.2	10	11	10
Sims	1	0	13.86	12.1	14	19	13
Rosario	0	0	36.00	1.0	5	4	0

NL leaders

Entering Monday's games.

BATTING

Freeman, LAD .374
Smith, LAD .342
Donovan, STL .323
Machado, SD .308
Hoerner, CHC .301
Friedl, CIN .300
Turner, PHI .299
Hernández, LAD .298
Ohtani, LAD .298
Naylor, ARI .297

HOME RUNS

Ohtani, LAD 22
Schwarber, PHI 19
Suárez, ARI 16
Wood, WAS 16
Carroll, ARI 16
Crow-Armstrong, CHC 15
Suzuki, CHC 14
Tatis, SD 13
Lindor, NYM 13
6 tied 12

RBI

Suzuki, CHC 52
Crow-Armstrong, CHC 51
Flores, SF 47
Alonso, NYM 46
Suárez, ARI 44
Schwarber, PHI 44
Wood, WAS 44
Hernández, LAD 42
De La Cruz, CIN 42

STOLEN BASES

Cruz, PIT 20
Crow-Armstrong, CHC 19
De La Cruz, CIN 17
Scott, STL 16
Tucker, CHC 16
Turner, PHI 16
Turang, MIL 14

ERA

Senga, NYM 1.60
Yamamoto, LAD 1.97
Skenes, PIT 2.15
Ray, SF 2.43
Burnes, ARI 2.66
Peterson, NYM 2.69
Pivetta, SD 2.74
Peralta, MIL 2.77
Webb, SF 2.82
Wheeler, PHI 2.96

SAVES

Suarez, SD 19
Finnegan, WAS 16
Pagán, CIN 14
Díaz, NYM 13
Helsley, STL 13
Megill, MIL 11
Scott, LAD 10
Walker, SF 10
Iglesias, ATL 8
Romano, PHI 8

STRIKEOUTS

Gore, WAS 101
Wheeler, PHI 94
Sale, ATL 86
Webb, SF 84
Luzardo, PHI 81
Cease, SD 78
Ray, SF 78
Skenes, PIT 77
Gray, STL 76
Yamamoto, LAD 75

AL leaders

Entering Monday's games.

BATTING

Judge, NYY .398
Wilson, ATH .357
Goldschmidt, NYY .338
O'Hearn, BAL .329
Ramírez, CLE .327
Aranda, TB .320
Garcia, KC .316
Kwan, CLE .313
Peña, HOU .309
Kirk, TOR .301

HOME RUNS

Raleigh, SEA 23
Judge, NYY 21
Ward, LAA 16
O'Hoppe, LAA 14
Torkelson, DET 14
Grisham, NYY 13
Abreu, BOS 13
Caminero, TB 13

RBI

Devers, BOS 52
Judge, NYY 50
Raleigh, SEA 45
Torkelson, DET 42
Greene, DET 40
Ward, LAA 38
Caminero, TB 37
Soderstrom, ATH 36
Bregman, BOS 35
Díaz, TB 34
Duran, BOS 34

STOLEN BASES

Robert, CHW 21
Witt, KC 20
Caballero, TB 19
Simpson, TB 19
Mateo, BAL 14
Ramírez, CLE 14
Duran, BOS 13
Langford, TEX 11

ERA

Bubic, KC 1.43
Eovaldi, TEX 1.56
Mahle, TEX 1.64
Brown, HOU 1.83
Fried, NYY 1.92
Crochet, BOS 1.98
Skubal, DET 2.26
Rasmussen, TB 2.33
deGrom, TEX 2.34
Ryan, MIN 2.57

SAVES

Muñoz, SEA 17
Estévez, KC 16
Hader, HOU 15
Clase, CLE 13
Hoffman, TOR 13
Miller, ATH 12
Jansen, LAA 11
Bautista, BAL 10
Fairbanks, TB 10

STRIKEOUTS

Crochet, BOS 101
Skubal, DET 99
Rodón, NYY 90
Brown, HOU 84
Bubic, KC 79
Eovaldi, TEX 73
Valdez, HOU 73
Flaherty, DET 72
Ragans, KC 72
Ryan, MIN 72

ON BASEBALL

As June begins, the MLB landscape comes into focus

ON BASEBALL FROM D1

Tigers have the best record in baseball. They are validating last season's stunning final two months and then some: If there were any doubt that the Tigers' pitching staff is the real deal after it pushed Detroit to a surprise postseason appearance last year, that doubt has been removed in the first two months of this season.

The Tigers' rotation owned a 3.15 ERA, fourth best in baseball, entering Monday thanks in large part to the long-awaited emergence of Casey Mize and the continued dominance of Tarik Skubal. Their bullpen had a 3.24 ERA, tied for third best in baseball. Tigers relievers walked just 7.9 percent of batters faced, good for second best. Since Aug. 1 of last year, only one team had a better rotation ERA (the Mets) and bullpen ERA (the Giants) than Detroit.

The Tigers have been good enough on offense to make the most of that pitching, though they were striking out more than only the Los Angeles Angels, Colorado Rockies and Baltimore Orioles and had only one player (Spencer Torkelson) in MLB's top 25 in OPS. Still, they owned a run differential of plus-86, better than everyone but the Chicago Cubs and Yankees, all of which suggests the Tigers' run to the postseason was less fluke than coronation.

Rockies are very, very bad

The Rockies suffered their 50th loss Sunday, a 5-3 decision to the New York Mets. Most teams lose 50 games at some point in a season. No team has ever done it before winning its 10th game.

In fact, a year after the Chicago White Sox made a spirited attempt to redefine futility by losing 121 games, the Rockies are already threatening to erase them from the record book. Just four teams had played 55 or more games before winning their 10th game of the season, none since 1904. They own the lowest OPS in baseball and the second-highest ERA. Firing manager Bud Black in early May did not turn things around.

The Rockies now play only to stave off infamy, a project that will get only harder as the trade deadline nears and management off-loads what few on-field assets it has in service of a brighter future. But this year was once part of an alleged brighter future. These days, hope struggles to survive at altitude.

CHARLIE RIEDEL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reigning American League Cy Young winner Tarik Skubal has led Detroit to baseball's best record.

O's aren't the only letdown

Even after a sweep of the White Sox this past weekend, the Orioles remain the most confounding team in baseball. With a roster talented enough to contend, the Orioles have a 22-36 record.

So while they have been this season's most prominent disappointment, they are providing cover for several once-credible contenders who have all but disappeared.

The Texas Rangers, for example, have a high-quality rotation and an experienced lineup that earned them preseason respect as a potential pennant winner. But their offense sputtered so dramatically that they fired modern-molded hitting coach Donnie Ecker and replaced him with old-school baseball star Bret Boone in an attempt to resurrect themselves. They remain under .500.

The Atlanta Braves, too, continue to play sub-.500 baseball after early-season debacles, including the suspension of outfielder Jurickson Profar and lengthy absences from 2023 NL MVP Ronald Acuña Jr. and right-hander Spencer Strider. Their experienced lineup is struggling so mightily that some Atlanta fans are going so far as to wonder whether lifetime Braves man Brian Snitker needs to be fired. The manager has floated the idea of retiring after this season but has endured controversy with Acuña and others at times this year.

The Orioles also are providing cover for a division foe: The free-spending Boston Red Sox remain under .500 after a month of agonizingly close losses that included a season-ending injury to enigmatic first baseman Triston Casas and a significant quadriceps injury to Alex Bregman.

The Red Sox are ahead of the Orioles in the AL East but were also 8½ games behind the Yankees, probably more than their fans hoped would separate those teams after Boston's most aggressive offseason in years.

Pitching injuries are huge

Atlanta's frustrating start to the season got more frustrating this past week when AJ Smith-Shawver suffered an elbow injury that will require season-ending surgery, dealing a blow to a rotation that has star power at the top but lacks its usual depth.

Also, the Rangers placed Nathan Eovaldi, whose 1.56 ERA is second among all starters, on the injured list with triceps tightness — an injury they say should require the minimum stay but, given the triceps's connection with the elbow, isn't exactly reassuring.

The Arizona Diamondbacks, themselves still trying to take off in the brutal NL West, watched $210 million ace Corbin Burnes walk off the mound Sunday appearing to express concern about his elbow, though as of Monday, it was unclear how severe that injury was.

The Diamondbacks will need Burnes to chase down the Dodgers, who have suffered more pitching injuries than just about anyone — and, given their ability to stockpile aces, received far less sympathy than anyone. Among the pitchers on their injured list: Roki Sasaki, Tyler Glasnow, Blake Snell, Blake Treinen, Brusdar Graterol, Kirby Yates and Michael Kopech. Shohei Ohtani is throwing to hitters, so he might resume pitching duties fairly soon.

But it is worth wondering where the Dodgers might be relative to the rest of baseball if it weren't for all those injuries — and just what the second half might look like if enough of them start to heal.

Rockies 6, Marlins 4

Hunter Goodman homered twice, including a go-ahead two-run shot in the fifth inning, and Colorado beat Miami to snap its fourth eight-game losing streak of the season.

It was the 10th win against 50 losses for the Rockies, who had already wrapped up the worst 60-game start in the modern era (since 1901).

ROCKIES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Hilliard lf	5	0	1	1	0	2	.333
Tovar ss	4	1	1	0	0	2	.258
Beck ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Goodman c	5	3	3	3	0	1	.273
Estrada 2b	4	0	3	1	0	1	.364
McMahon dh-3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.208
Doyle cf	4	1	1	0	0	2	.212
Arcia 3b-ss	3	0	0	0	1	0	.333
Hiura 1b	4	1	1	0	0	0	.167
Freeman rf	4	0	1	1	0	0	.239
TOTALS	**38**	**6**	**12**	**6**	**1**	**9**	**—**

MARLINS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Edwards 2b	4	1	1	0	1	1	.282
Sánchez rf	4	1	3	1	1	0	.268
Ramírez c	5	1	1	1	0	0	.252
Stowers lf	5	0	1	0	0	2	.279
Lopez ss	4	0	2	1	0	0	.239
Wagaman 1b	3	0	0	1	0	2	.249
Norby 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.254
Hicks dh	4	1	2	0	0	1	.278
Myers cf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.315
TOTALS	**37**	**4**	**11**	**4**	**2**	**8**	**—**

COLORADO	**101**	**120**	**001**	**—**	**6**	**12**	**2**
MIAMI	**310**	**000**	**000**	**—**	**4**	**11**	**0**

E: Goodman (6), Arcia (1). **LOB:** Colorado 6, Miami 9. **2B:** Estrada (1), Hiura (1), Hilliard (1), Sánchez 2 (5), Hicks (5), Stowers (8), Myers (4), Lopez (7). **HR:** Goodman 2 (9), off Meyer.

ROCKIES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Márquez	5	9	4	3	2	6	6.98
Bird	1	1	0	0	0	0	1.56
Kinley	1	0	0	0	0	1	6.29
Halvorsen	1	0	0	0	0	1	4.56
Agnos	1	1	0	0	0	0	1.50

MARLINS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Meyer	5	10	5	4	1	5	4.73
Tinoco	1	0	0	0	0	0	5.12
Bellozo	3	2	1	1	0	4	2.90

WP: Márquez (2-7); **LP:** Meyer (3-5); **S:** Agnos (4). **PB:** Ramírez (5). **T:** 2:35. **A:** 5,894 (37,446).

Brewers 3, Reds 2

Christian Yelich hit his fourth home run in six games, and Milwaukee beat Cincinnati to extend its winning streak to eight.

Sal Frelick had a pair of hits for the Brewers, who have their longest winning streak since they ran off nine straight in August 2023.

BREWERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Turang 2b	3	0	0	1	0	1	.271
Chourio cf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.258
Contreras c	4	0	0	0	0	0	.246
Yelich dh	4	1	1	1	0	1	.233
Hoskins 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.265
Frelick rf	4	1	2	0	0	1	.296
Monasterio 3b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.158
Bauers lf	2	0	0	0	1	1	.256
Collins lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.230
Ortiz ss	1	0	0	1	2	0	.186
TOTALS	**30**	**3**	**5**	**3**	**3**	**7**	**—**

REDS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Friedl cf	3	1	2	0	1	0	.305
Lux 2b	3	0	1	0	1	1	.292
De La Cruz ss	4	1	1	1	0	1	.257
Stephenson dh	4	0	2	0	0	1	.239
Steer 1b	4	0	1	1	0	1	.221
Benson lf	2	0	0	0	0	2	.250
Joe ph-rf	2	0	1	0	0	1	.300
Trevino c	4	0	0	0	0	1	.278
Fraley rf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.195
Espinal ph-3b	2	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Hampson 3b-lf	4	0	0	0	0	3	.167
TOTALS	**34**	**2**	**8**	**2**	**2**	**11**	**—**

MILWAUKEE	**021**	**000**	**000**	**—**	**3**	**5**	**1**
CINCINNATI	**200**	**000**	**000**	**—**	**2**	**8**	**0**

E: Contreras (3). **LOB:** Milwaukee 4, Cincinnati 7. **2B:** Monasterio (2), Friedl (11). **HR:** Yelich (13), off Singer.

BREWERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Civale	5⅓	7	2	2	1	5	5.19
Zastryzny	⅔	1	0	0	0	1	0.00
Koenig	1	0	0	0	1	2	3.62
Uribe	1	0	0	0	0	2	1.53
Megill	1	0	0	0	0	1	2.21

REDS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Singer	5	4	3	3	3	4	4.66
Suter	1	1	0	0	0	1	2.35
Gibaut	1⅓	0	0	0	0	1	5.51
Rogers	⅓	0	0	0	0	0	2.66
Barlow	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.86

WP: Civale (1-1); **LP:** Singer (6-4); **S:** Megill (12). **Inherited runners-scored:** Zastryzny 1-0. **T:** 2:30. **A:** 18,711 (43,891).

Angels 7, Red Sox 6

Mike Trout's three hits included a three-run blast in a six-run first inning, and Los Angeles held off Boston.

Zach Neto homered to lead off the game, and Jo Adell also homered in the first and added another solo shot in the sixth.

ANGELS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Neto ss	5	1	1	1	0	1	.268
Schanuel 1b	3	1	0	0	2	0	.269
Ward lf	4	1	1	0	0	2	.218
Soler rf	3	1	0	1	1	1	.218
Trout dh	4	1	3	3	0	0	.225
O'Hoppe c	4	0	0	0	0	0	.253
Adell cf	4	2	2	2	0	1	.215
Rengifo 3b-2b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.215
Kingery 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.125
Newman 3b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.176
TOTALS	**35**	**7**	**8**	**7**	**3**	**5**	**—**

RED SOX	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Duran lf	5	2	3	0	0	1	.271
Devers dh	4	1	1	1	1	0	.286
Refsnyder rf	3	1	1	1	1	2	.304
Abreu ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.246
Narváez c	4	1	1	1	1	0	.284
González 1b	5	0	2	2	0	1	.316
Toro 3b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.306
Story ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.218
Rafaela cf	4	1	2	1	0	0	.245
Campbell 2b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.223
TOTALS	**38**	**6**	**11**	**6**	**3**	**10**	**—**

L.A.	**600**	**001**	**000**	**—**	**7**	**8**	**0**
BOSTON	**001**	**040**	**010**	**—**	**6**	**11**	**2**

E: Toro (2), González (3). **LOB:** Los Angeles 4, Boston 8. **2B:** Duran 2 (15), Devers (17), Narváez (12), González (7). **HR:** Neto (10), off Fitts; Trout (10), off Fitts; Adell (8), off Fitts; Adell (9), off Dobbins; Rafaela (4), off Neris.

ANGELS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Anderson	4⅓	7	5	5	2	5	3.86
Strickland	⅔	1	0	0	0	1	0.00
Detmers	1	2	0	0	1	0	6.29
Zeferjahn	1	0	0	0	0	2	4.98
Neris	1	1	1	1	0	1	5.87
Jansen	1	0	0	0	0	1	4.91

RED SOX	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Fitts	1	4	6	5	1	0	4.71
Dobbins	5	4	1	1	1	4	4.06
Burdi	1	0	0	0	1	1	0.00
Guerrero	2	0	0	0	0	0	1.23

WP: Zeferjahn (3-1); **LP:** Fitts (0-3); **S:** Jansen (12). **Inherited runners-scored:** Strickland 2-2. **WP:** Anderson. **T:** 2:49. **A:** 31,688 (37,755).

Tigers 13, White Sox 1

Kerry Carpenter hit a career-high three homers and drove in five runs as Detroit pounded lowly Chicago to become the first team to reach 40 wins this season.

Parker Meadows had two hits and scored three times in his season debut for the Tigers after being sidelined by an arm injury.

TIGERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Meadows cf	4	3	2	0	2	1	.500
Torres 2b	4	2	2	2	0	0	.275
Ibáñez 3b	1	1	1	1	0	0	.218
Carpenter dh	5	3	3	5	0	1	.276
Greene lf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.271
Sweeney ss	1	0	1	0	0	0	.230
Dingler c	5	1	1	2	0	2	.296
Keith 1b	4	0	2	1	1	1	.244
McKinstry 3b-lf	4	1	0	0	1	0	.261
Pérez rf	5	1	2	2	0	0	.316
Báez ss-2b	5	1	1	0	0	0	.271
TOTALS	**42**	**13**	**16**	**13**	**4**	**7**	**—**

WHITE SOX	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Meidroth ss	3	1	2	0	1	0	.290
Tauchman dh	3	0	0	0	0	1	.348
Taylor ph-lf	1	0	1	0	0	0	.200
Vargas 1b	2	0	1	0	0	0	.238
Slater lf-1b	2	0	1	0	0	0	.258
Benintendi lf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.242
Capra 2b-p	2	0	0	1	0	0	.100
Sosa 2b-1b-2b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.274
Palacios rf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.205
Robert cf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.177
Rojas 3b	2	0	0	0	1	0	.159
K.Lee c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.240
TOTALS	**30**	**1**	**5**	**1**	**2**	**5**	**—**

DETROIT	**320**	**302**	**030**	**—**	**13**	**16**	**0**
CHICAGO	**000**	**001**	**000**	**—**	**1**	**5**	**0**

LOB: Detroit 6, Chicago 5. **2B:** Meadows (1), Pérez (2), Meidroth (5), Slater (3). **3B:** Meadows (1). **HR:** Carpenter (11), off Cannon; Dingler (6), off Cannon; Pérez (2), off Cannon; Carpenter 2 (13), off B.Wilson.

TIGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Flaherty	6	4	1	1	1	4	3.72
D.Smith	2	1	0	0	1	0	0.00
Brebbia	1	0	0	0	0	1	5.17

WHITE SOX	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Cannon	3	4	5	5	3	5	4.66
B.Wilson	5	12	8	8	1	2	6.80
Capra	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00

WP: Flaherty (4-6); **LP:** Cannon (2-7). **HBP:** D.Smith (Palacios). **T:** 2:34. **A:** 11,852 (40,241).

The Washington Post

VIETNAM WAR 50

YEARS IN HISTORY AND MEMORY

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NOTES

PERSONNEL DEPT.

Astros: A man who made online death threats aimed at the family of RHP Lance McCullers Jr. lives overseas, was intoxicated at the time and told Houston police he was sorry for what he had done, a department spokesperson said. McCullers received the threats on social media directed at his children after a poor start against the Reds on May 10.

Braves: Former manager Fredi González is returning to Atlanta as acting third base coach, and Matt Tuiasosopo, the previous third base coach, is moving to minor league infield coordinator.

Giants: Reinstated OF Jerar Encarnación (hand) from the 60-day injured list and optioned OF Luis Matos to Class AAA Sacramento.

Orioles: Reinstated OF Colton Cowser (thumb), who was second in AL rookie of the year voting last season, from the 60-day IL and designated IF-OF Cooper Hummel for assignment.

TODAY

NL games

CUBS AT NATIONALS, 6:45

	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Horton (R)	2-0	3.98	3-0
Williams (R)	3-5	5.69	5-6

ROCKIES AT MARLINS, 6:40

Dollander (R)	2-5	6.28	2-6
Alcantara (R)	2-7	8.47	4-7

BREWERS AT REDS, 7:10

Peralta (R)	5-3	2.77	7-5
Greene (R)	4-3	2.63	5-5

DIAMONDBACKS AT BRAVES, 7:15

Gallen (R)	3-7	5.54	4-8
Strider (R)	0-3	4.50	0-3

PADRES AT GIANTS, 9:45

TBD	----	----	----
Roupp (R)	3-4	3.54	6-5

METS AT DODGERS, 10:10

Megill (R)	4-4	3.52	5-6
Kershaw (L)	0-0	4.91	1-2

NL scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

at Arizona 3, Washington 1
Milwaukee 5, at Philadelphia 2
at N.Y. Mets 5, Colorado 3
San Francisco 4, at Miami 2
at Chicago Cubs 4, Cincinnati 3
at San Diego 6, Pittsburgh 4

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Colorado 6, at Miami 4
Milwaukee 3, at Cincinnati 2
San Diego at San Francisco, late
N.Y. Mets at L.A. Dodgers, late

AL games

ORIOLES AT MARINERS, 9:40

	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Sugano (R)	4-3	3.23	6-5
Kirby (R)	0-2	11.42	0-2

GUARDIANS AT YANKEES, 7:05

Bibee (R)	4-5	3.86	6-5
Rodón (L)	7-3	2.60	7-5

ANGELS AT RED SOX, 7:10

Kikuchi (L)	1-5	3.06	5-7
Bello (R)	2-1	3.82	5-3

RANGERS AT RAYS, 7:35

Mahle (R)	5-2	1.64	6-6
Rasmussen (R)	4-4	2.33	5-6

TIGERS AT WHITE SOX, 7:40

TBD	----	----	----
Smith (R)	1-3	2.68	2-9

TWINS AT ATHLETICS, 10:05

López (R)	4-3	2.75	6-4
Lopez (L)	0-3	6.32	0-3

AL scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

at Baltimore 3, Chicago White Sox 2
at Toronto 8, Athletics 4
at Cleveland 4, L.A. Angels 2
Detroit 1, at Kansas City 0
at Houston 1, Tampa Bay 0
at Seattle 2, Minnesota 1

MONDAY'S RESULTS

L.A. Angels 7, at Boston 6
Detroit 13, at Chicago White Sox 1
Minnesota at Athletics, late

Interleague games

ASTROS AT PIRATES, 6:40

	W-L	ERA	TEAM
McCullers (R)	0-1	5.89	3-2
Skenes (R)	4-5	2.15	5-7

PHILLIES AT BLUE JAYS, 7:07

Sánchez (L)	4-1	3.32	9-2
Francis (R)	2-6	5.04	4-7

ROYALS AT CARDINALS, 7:45

Lorenzen (R)	3-6	4.33	5-6
Pallante (R)	4-3	4.23	7-4

Interleague scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

at Texas 8, St. Louis 1
Boston 3, at Atlanta 1
N.Y. Yankees 7, at L.A. Dodgers 3

MONDAY'S RESULTS

No games scheduled.

Boisson moves on with upset

FRENCH OPEN FROM **D1**

on this court with such an atmosphere was really incredible."

Boisson made the notoriously hard-to-please crowd laugh when she added: "I'm really happy on here. I can stay a long time if you like." The crowd broke into chants of "Loïs! Loïs!" and she waved back.

She is the only French singles player left in either bracket and feels comfortable on clay, having played on it regularly since she took up tennis when she was 8.

Asked what her ambitions were for the rest of the tournament — she plays sixth-seeded Mirra Andreeva on Wednesday in the quarterfinals — Boisson replied, "I hope to win, right?"

That prompted more laughter from the crowd, which included tournament director Amelie Mauresmo, who has been criticized for the lack of women's matches during night sessions.

Another women's quarterfinal was set up between No. 2 Coco Gauff and No. 7 Madison Keys, two Americans who each own one Grand Slam title.

Gauff, the 2023 U.S. Open champion, won, 6-0, 7-5, against No. 20 Ekaterina Alexandrova, and Keys, the Australian Open winner in January, defeated yet another American, Hailey Baptiste, 6-3, 7-5.

Over on Court Suzanne-Lenglen, the 18-year-old Andreeva, who reached the semifinals at Roland Garros last year for her best performance at a major, got past No. 17 Daria Kasatkina, 7-5, 6-3. They are pals, and Kasatkina playfully threw her wristband at Andreeva when they came to the net; Andreeva joked she would keep it.

In men's action, Novak Djokovic earned his 100th career French Open victory and set up a quarterfinal against No. 3 Alexander Zverev, last year's runner-up.

No. 62 Alexander Bublik surprised No. 5 Jack Draper, 5-7, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4, and next meets No. 1 Jannik Sinner, a 6-1, 6-3, 6-4 winner over No. 17 Andrey Rublev on Monday night. Sinner has won 18 consecutive Grand Slam matches.

Djokovic overwhelmed Cam Norrie, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2, and Zverev was leading 6-4, 3-0 when Tallon Griekspoor quit because of an abdominal strain.

The quarterfinals get started Tuesday.

The women's matches will feature No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka vs. Olympic champion Qinwen Zheng and three-time defending champion Iga Swiatek against No. 13 Elina Svitolina. The men's matches are No. 8 Lorenzo Musetti vs. No. 15 Frances Tiafoe and defending champion Carlos Alcaraz vs. No. 12 Tommy Paul at night.

Tiafoe and Paul give the United States two men's quarterfinalists for the first time since Jim Courier and Pete Sampras in 1996. There hadn't even been one from the country since Andre Agassi in 2003.

CHRISTOPHE PETIT TESSON/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

Loïs Boisson of France continued her march at Roland Garros with an upset of No. 3 Jessica Pegula.

SCOREBOARD

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA playoffs

FIRST ROUND
Best of seven

EASTERN CONFERENCE
PACERS ELIMINATED BUCKS, 4-1
Game 1: at Indiana 117, Milwaukee 98
Game 2: at Indiana 123, Mikwaukee 115
Game 3: at Milwaukee 117, Indiana 101
Game 4: Indiana 129, at Milwaukee 103
Game 5: at Indiana 119, Milwaukee 118 (OT)

CELTICS ELIMINATED MAGIC, 4-1
Game 1: at Boston 103, Orlando 86
Game 2: at Boston 109, Orlando 100
Game 3: at Orlando 95, Boston 93
Game 4: Boston 107, at Orlando 98
Game 5: at Boston 120, Orlando 89

CAVALIERS ELIMINATED HEAT, 4-0
Game 1: at Cleveland 121, Miami 100
Game 2: at Cleveland 121, Miami 112
Game 3: Cleveland 124, at Miami 87
Game 4: Cleveland 138, at Miami 83

KNICKS ELIMINATED PISTONS, 4-2
Game 1: at New York 123, Detroit 112
Game 2: Detroit 100, at New York 94
Game 3: New York 118, at Detroit 116
Game 4: New York 94, at Detroit 93
Game 5: Detroit 106, at New York 103
Game 6: New York 116, at Detroit 113

WESTERN CONFERENCE
NUGGETS ELIMINATED CLIPPERS, 4-3
Game 1: at Denver 112, L.A. Clippers 110 (OT)
Game 2: L.A. Clippers 105, at Denver 102
Game 3: at L.A. Clippers 117, Denver 83
Game 4: Denver 101, at L.A. Clippers 99
Game 5: at Denver 131, L.A. Clippers 115
Game 6: at L.A. Clippers 111, Denver 105
Game 7: at Denver 120, L.A. Clippers 101

WARRIORS ELIMINATED ROCKETS, 4-3
Game 1: Golden State 95, at Houston 85
Game 2: at Houston 109, Golden State 94
Game 3: at Golden State 104, Houston 93
Game 4: at Golden State 109, Houston 106
Game 5: at Houston 131, Golden State 116
Game 6: Houston 115, at Golden State 107
Game 7: Golden State 103, at Houston 89

THUNDER ELIMINATED GRIZZLIES, 4-0
Game 1: at Oklahoma City 131, Memphis 80
Game 2: at Oklahoma City 118, Memphis 99
Game 3: Oklahoma City 114, at Memphis 98
Game 4: Oklahoma City 117, at Memphis 115

TIMBERWOLVES ELIMINATED LAKERS, 4-1
Game 1: Minnesota 117, at L.A. Lakers 95
Game 2: at L.A. Lakers 94, Minnesota 85
Game 3: at Minnesota 116, L.A. Lakers 104
Game 4: at Minnesota 116, L.A. Lakers 113
Game 5: Minnesota 103, at L.A. Lakers 96

SECOND ROUND
Best of seven

EASTERN CONFERENCE
PACERS ELIMINATED CAVALIERS, 4-1
Game 1: Indiana 121, at Cleveland 112
Game 2: Indiana 120, at Cleveland 119
Game 3: Cleveland 126, at Indiana 104
Game 4: at Indiana 129, Cleveland 109
Game 5: Indiana 114, at Cleveland 105

KNICKS ELIMINATED CELTICS, 4-2
Game 1: New York 108, at Boston 105 (OT)
Game 2: New York 91, at Boston 90
Game 3: Boston 115, at New York 93
Game 4: at New York 121, Boston 113
Game 5: at Boston 127, New York 102
Game 6: at New York 119, Boston 81

WESTERN CONFERENCE
THUNDER ELIMINATED NUGGETS, 4-3
Game 1: Denver 121, at Oklahoma City 119
Game 2: at Oklahoma City 149, Denver 106
Game 3: at Denver 113, Oklahoma City 104 (OT)
Game 4: Oklahoma City 92, at Denver 87
Game 5: at Oklahoma City 112, Denver 105
Game 6: at Denver 119, Oklahoma City 107
Game 7: at Oklahoma City 125, Denver 93

TIMBERWOLVES ELIMINATED WARRIORS, 4-1
Game 1: Golden State 99, at Minnesota 88
Game 2: at Minnesota 117, Golden State 93
Game 3: Minnesota 102, at Golden State 97
Game 4: Minnesota 117, at Golden State 110
Game 5: at Minnesota 121, Golden State 110

CONFERENCE FINALS
Best of seven; x-If necessary

EASTERN CONFERENCE
PACERS ELIMINATED KNICKS, 4-2
Game 1: Indiana 138, at New York 135 (OT)
Game 2: Indiana 114, at New York 109
Game 3: New York 106, at Indiana 100
Game 4: at Indiana 130, New York 121
Game 5: at New York 111, Indiana 94
Game 6: at Indiana 125, New York 108

WESTERN CONFERENCE
THUNDER ELIMINATED TIMBERWOLVES, 4-1
Game 1: at Oklahoma City 114, Minnesota 88
Game 2: at Oklahoma City 118, Minnesota 103
Game 3: at Minnesota 143, Oklahoma City 101
Game 4: Oklahoma City 128, at Minnesota 126
Game 5: at Oklahoma City 124, Minnesota 94

NBA FINALS
Best of seven; x-If necessary

THUNDER VS. PACERS
Thursday's game: Indiana at Oklahoma City, 8:30
Sunday's game: Indiana at Oklahoma City, 8
Wednesday, June 11: Oklahoma City at Indiana, 8:30
Friday, June 13: Oklahoma City at Indiana, 8:30
x-Monday, June 16: Indiana at Oklahoma City, 8:30
x-Thursday, June 19: Oklahoma City at Indiana, 8:30
x-Sunday, June 22: Indiana at Oklahoma City, 8

NBA PLAYOFF LEADERS
Through Saturday.

SCORING	G	AVG
Antetokounmpo, MIL	5	33.0
Doncic, LAL	5	30.2
Gilgeous-Alexander, OKC	16	29.8
Mitchell, CLE	9	29.6
Brunson, NY	18	29.4
Banchero, ORL	5	29.4
Tatum, BOS	8	28.1
Jokic, DEN	14	26.2

REBOUNDS	G	AVG
Antetokounmpo, MIL	5	15.4
Jokic, DEN	14	12.7
Sengün, HOU	7	11.9
Towns, NY	18	11.6
Tatum, BOS	8	11.5
Adebayo, MIA	4	11.0
Carter, ORL	5	10.8
Duren, DET	6	10.7

ASSISTS	G	AVG
Haliburton, IND	16	9.8
Harden, LAC	7	9.1
Cunningham, DET	6	8.7
Jokic, DEN	14	8.0
Brunson, NY	18	7.0
Gilgeous-Alexander, OKC	16	6.9
Antetokounmpo, MIL	5	6.6
Mitchell, MIA	4	6.3

WNBA

EAST	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	7	0	1.000	—
Atlanta	5	2	.714	2
Washington	3	4	.429	4
Indiana	2	4	.333	4½
Chicago	2	4	.333	4½
Connecticut	1	6	.143	6

WEST	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	7	0	1.000	—
Phoenix	5	2	.714	2
Las Vegas	4	2	.667	2½
Seattle	3	4	.429	4
Golden State	2	4	.333	4½
Los Angeles	2	6	.250	5½
Dallas	1	6	.143	6

SATURDAY'S RESULT
Chicago 94, at Dallas 83

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
at New York 100, Connecticut 52
Las Vegas 75, at Seattle 70
Phoenix 85, at Los Angeles 80
Minnesota 86, at Golden State 75

MONDAY'S RESULTS
No games scheduled.

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Washington at Indiana, 7
Phoenix at Minnesota, 8
Dallas at Seattle, 9:30

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
No games scheduled.

THURSDAY'S GAMES
New York at Washington, 7:30
Golden State at Phoenix, 10

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Atlanta at Connecticut, 7:30
Los Angeles at Dallas, 9:30

Lynx 86, Golden State 75

Late Sunday

MINNESOTA	**27**	**24**	**17**	**18**	**— 86**
GOLDEN STATE	**23**	**29**	**8**	**15**	**— 75**

MINNESOTA: Carleton 4-9 2-2 12, Collier 8-18 6-7 24, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, McBride 6-10 2-3 16, Williams 8-17 1-1 20, Pili 0-1 0-0 0, Shepard 0-0 3-6 3, Hiedeman 3-6 1-1 8, Samuelson 1-4 0-0 3. **Totals** 30-66 15-20 86.

GOLDEN STATE: Salaün 2-10 0-0 5, Thornton 4-8 2-2 11, Fágbénlé 1-4 3-4 5, Burton 7-11 4-5 21, Hayes 3-6 2-2 9, Billings 2-5 3-4 7, Talbot 0-3 0-0 0, Zandalasini 1-3 0-0 3, Leite 0-2 0-0 0, Martin 4-8 4-5 14, Vanloo 0-5 0-0 0. **Totals** 24-65 18-22 75.

Three-point Goals: Minnesota 11-26 (Williams 3-7, McBride 2-3, Collier 2-4, Carleton 2-6, Hiedeman 1-2, Samuelson 1-3, Smith 0-1), Golden State 9-34 (Burton 3-5, Martin 2-4, Hayes 1-3, Thornton 1-3, Zandalasini 1-3, Salaün 1-7, Leite 0-2, Fágbénlé 0-3, Vanloo 0-4). **Fouled Out:** None. **Rebounds:** Minnesota 36 (Collier 11), Golden State 37 (Billings, Salaün, Thornton 6). **Assists:** Minnesota 22 (Williams 5), Golden State 15 (Vanloo 4). **Total Fouls:** Minnesota 18, Golden State 19. **A:** 18,064 (18,064)

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Cup Series

CRACKER BARREL 400
SUNDAY'S RESULTS
At Nashville Superspeedway; in Lebanon, Tenn.
Lap length: 1.33 miles
(Start position in parentheses)

1. (15) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 300 laps, 54 points.
2. (26) Carson Hocevar, Chevrolet, 300, 39.
3. (2) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 300, 53.
4. (9) Joey Logano, Ford, 300, 42.
5. (3) William Byron, Chevrolet, 300, 48.
6. (12) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, 300, 31.
7. (14) Erik Jones, Toyota, 300, 36.
8. (28) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 300, 29.
9. (4) Tyler Reddick, Toyota, 300, 37.
10. (7) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 300, 34.
11. (5) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 300, 27.
12. (25) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, 300, 25.
13. (27) Zane Smith, Ford, 300, 27.
14. (10) Chris Buescher, Ford, 300, 23.
15. (11) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 300, 27.
16. (32) Daniel Suárez, Chevrolet, 300, 21.
17. (1) Chase Briscoe, Toyota, 300, 28.
18. (16) Austin Cindric, Ford, 300, 24.
19. (29) Cole Custer, Ford, 300, 18.
20. (17) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 300, 17.
21. (8) Michael McDowell, Chevrolet, 300, 19.
22. (35) Todd Gilliland, Ford, 300, 15.
23. (6) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 300, 14.
24. (37) Riley Herbst, Toyota, 300, 13.
25. (23) Shane Van Gisbergen, Chevrolet, 300, 12.
26. (31) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 299, 11.
27. (36) John H. Nemechek, Toyota, 299, 10.
28. (19) Ryan Preece, Ford, 299, 9.
29. (21) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 299, 8.
30. (20) Josh Berry, Ford, 299, 9.
31. (22) Ty Gibbs, Toyota, 299, 6.
32. (18) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, 299, 5.
33. (34) Cody Ware, Ford, 297, 4.
34. (38) JJ Yeley, Chevrolet, 297, 0.
35. (39) Chad Finchum, Ford, 288, 2.
36. (24) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 188, 1.
37. (33) Corey Heim, Toyota, accident, 130, 0.
38. (30) Noah Gragson, Ford, accident, 112, 1.
39. (13) Ricky Stenhouse Jr, Chevrolet, accident, 110, 1.

POINTS LEADERS
Through Sunday.

1. William Byron, 547.
2. Kyle Larson, 499.
3. Christopher Bell, 459.
4. Denny Hamlin, 443.
5. Chase Elliott, 442.
6. Tyler Reddick, 429.
7. Ryan Blaney, 417.
8. Joey Logano, 380.
9. Ross Chastain, 377.
10. Bubba Wallace, 343.
11. Chase Briscoe, 342.
12. Alex Bowman, 334.
13. Austin Cindric, 303.
14. Chris Buescher, 297.
15. Kyle Busch, 291.
16. Ryan Preece, 289.
17. Carson Hocevar, 287.
18. Ricky Stenhouse Jr, 285.
19. AJ Allmendinger, 284.
20. Josh Berry, 278.
21. Michael McDowell, 278.
22. John H. Nemechek, 267.
23. Todd Gilliland, 261.
24. Erik Jones, 259.
25. Zane Smith, 255.
26. Austin Dillon, 252.
27. Ty Gibbs, 236.
28. Daniel Suárez, 231.
29. Justin Haley, 218.
30. Ty Dillon, 217.
31. Noah Gragson, 214.
32. Brad Keselowski, 194.
33. Shane Van Gisbergen, 173.

HOCKEY

Stanley Cup playoffs

FIRST ROUND
Best of seven

EASTERN CONFERENCE
CAPITALS ELIMINATED CANADIENS, 4-1
Game 1: at Washington 3, Montreal 2 (OT)
Game 2: at Washington 3, Montreal 1
Game 3: at Montreal 6, Washington 3
Game 4: Washington 5, at Montreal 2
Game 5: at Washington 4, Montreal 1

PANTHERS ELIMINATED LIGHTNING, 4-1
Game 1: Florida 6, at Tampa Bay 2
Game 2: Florida 2, at Tampa Bay 0
Game 3: Tampa Bay 5, at Florida 1
Game 4: at Florida 4, Tampa Bay 2
Game 5: Florida 6, at Tampa Bay 3

MAPLE LEAFS ELIMINATED SENATORS, 4-2
Game 1: at Toronto 6, Ottawa 2
Game 2: at Toronto 3, Ottawa 2 (OT)
Game 3: Toronto 3, at Ottawa 2 (OT)
Game 4: at Ottawa 4, Toronto 3 (OT)
Game 5: Ottawa 4, at Toronto 0
Game 6: Toronto 4, at Ottawa 2

HURRICANES ELIMINATED DEVILS, 4-1
Game 1: at Carolina 4, New Jersey 1
Game 2: at Carolina 3, New Jersey 1
Game 3: at New Jersey 3, Carolina 2 (2OT)
Game 4: Carolina 5, at New Jersey 2
Game 5: at Carolina 5, New Jersey 4 (2OT)

WESTERN CONFERENCE
JETS ELIMINATED BLUES, 4-3
Game 1: at Winnipeg 5, St. Louis 3
Game 2: at Winnipeg 2, St. Louis 1
Game 3: at St. Louis 7, Winnipeg 2
Game 4: at St. Louis 5, Winnipeg 1
Game 5: at Winnipeg 5, St. Louis 3
Game 6: at St. Louis 5, Winnipeg 2
Game 7: at Winnipeg 4, St. Louis 3 (2OT)

OILERS ELIMINATED KINGS, 4-2
Game 1: at Los Angeles 6, Edmonton 5
Game 2: at Los Angeles 6, Edmonton 2
Game 3: at Edmonton 7, Los Angeles 4
Game 4: at Edmonton 4, Los Angeles 3 (OT)
Game 5: Edmonton 3, at Los Angeles 1
Game 6: at Edmonton 6, Los Angeles 4

GOLDEN KNIGHTS ELIMINATED WILD, 4-2
Game 1: at Vegas 4, Minnesota 2
Game 2: Minnesota 5, at Vegas 2
Game 3: at Minnesota 5, Vegas 2
Game 4: Vegas 4, at Minnesota 3 (OT)
Game 5: at Vegas 3, Minnesota 2 (OT)
Game 6: Vegas 3, at Minnesota 2

STARS ELIMINATED AVALANCHE, 4-3
Game 1: Colorado 5, at Dallas 1
Game 2: at Dallas 4, Colorado 3 (OT)
Game 3: Dallas 2, at Colorado 1 (OT)
Game 4: at Colorado 4, Dallas 0
Game 5: at Dallas 6, Colorado 2
Game 6: at Colorado 7, Dallas 4
Game 7: at Dallas 4, Colorado 2

SECOND ROUND
Best of seven

EASTERN CONFERENCE
HURRICANES ELIMINATED CAPITALS, 4-1
Game 1: Carolina 2, at Washington 1 (OT)
Game 2: at Washington 3, Carolina 1
Game 3: at Carolina 4, Washington 0
Game 4: at Carolina 5, Washington 2
Game 5: Carolina 3, at Washington 1

PANTHERS ELIMINATED MAPLE LEAFS, 4-3
Game 1: at Toronto 5, Florida 4
Game 2: at Toronto 4, Toronto 3
Game 3: at Florida 5, Toronto 4 (OT)
Game 4: at Florida 2, Toronto 0
Game 5: Florida 6, at Toronto 1
Game 6: Toronto 2, at Florida 0
Game 7: Florida 6, at Toronto 1

WESTERN CONFERENCE
OILERS ELIMINATED GOLDEN KNIGHTS, 4-1
Game 1: Edmonton 4, at Vegas 2
Game 2: Edmonton 5, at Vegas 4 (OT)
Game 3: Vegas 4, at Edmonton 3
Game 4: at Edmonton 3, Vegas 0
Game 5: Edmonton 1, at Vegas 0 (OT)

STARS ELIMINATED JETS, 4-2
Game 1: Dallas 3, at Winnipeg 2
Game 2: at Winnipeg 4, Dallas 0
Game 3: at Dallas 5, Winnipeg 2
Game 4: at Dallas 3, Winnipeg 1
Game 5: at Winnipeg 4, Dallas 0
Game 6: at Dallas 2, Winnipeg 1 (OT)

CONFERENCE FINALS
Best of seven

EASTERN CONFERENCE
PANTHERS ELIMINATED HURRICANES, 4-1
Game 1: Florida 5, at Carolina 2
Game 2: Florida 5, at Carolina 0
Game 3: at Florida 6, Carolina 2
Game 4: Carolina 3, at Florida 0
Game 5: Florida 5, at Carolina 3

WESTERN CONFERENCE
OILERS ELIMINATED STARS, 4-1
Game 1: at Dallas 6, Edmonton 3
Game 2: Edmonton 3, at Dallas 0
Game 3: at Edmonton 6, Dallas 1
Game 4: at Edmonton 4, Dallas 1
Game 5: Edmonton 6, at Dallas 3

STANLEY CUP FINALS
Best of seven; x-If necessary

PANTHERS VS. OILERS
Wednesday's game: Florida at Edmonton, 8
Friday's game: Florida at Edmonton, 8
Monday's game: Edmonton at Florida, 8
Thursday, June 12: Edmonton at Florida, 8
x-Saturday, June 14: Florida at Edmonton, 8
x-Tuesday, June 17: Edmonton at Florida, 8
x-Friday, June 20: Florida at Edmonton, 8

TRANSACTIONS

MLB

Baltimore Orioles: Reinstated LF Colton Cowser from the 60-day IL. Designated RF Cooper Hummel for assignment. Sent C Chadwick Tromp outright to Norfolk (IL).
Pittsburgh Pirates: Claimed INF/OF Ronny Simon off waivers from Miami and optioned him to Indianapolis (IL). Designated RHP Tanner Rainey for assignment.

NBA

Utah Jazz: Hired Austin Ainge as president of basketball operations.

NFL

Baltimore Ravens: Placed DL Michael Pierce on the retired list. Signed DL John Jenkins to a contract.
Detroit Lions: Announced the retirement of C Frank Ragnow. Signed DB Divaad Wilson to a contract. Waived DB Gavin Holmes with an injury designation.

NHL

Washington Capitals: Signed G Garin Bjorklund to a one-year, two-way contract.

COLLEGES

George Mason: Hired Andy Fox as men's basketball assistant coach.

SOCCER

MLS

EAST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	10	3	4	34	32	18
Cincinnati	9	5	3	30	25	24
Inter Miami CF	8	3	5	29	36	27
Nashville	8	4	5	29	30	21
Columbus	7	3	7	28	27	24
New York	8	6	3	27	28	19
Orlando City	7	4	6	27	31	22
Charlotte FC	8	8	1	25	28	27
New York City FC	7	6	4	25	20	20
New England	6	4	5	23	19	14
Chicago	6	5	4	22	28	28
D.C. United	4	7	6	18	16	29
Atlanta	4	8	5	17	21	30
Toronto FC	3	10	4	13	18	24
CF Montreal	1	11	5	8	12	32

WEST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	9	1	5	32	27	12
San Diego FC	9	5	3	30	29	18
Minnesota United	8	3	6	30	26	16
Portland	7	4	5	26	25	22
Seattle	7	5	5	26	25	22
Los Angeles FC	6	4	5	23	27	22
San Jose	6	7	4	22	34	28
Colorado	6	6	4	22	18	22
Houston	5	7	5	20	22	25
Austin FC	5	7	5	20	11	20
FC Dallas	4	6	6	18	18	26
Sporting KC	4	8	4	16	25	28
Real Salt Lake	4	10	3	15	16	25
St. Louis City SC	3	8	5	14	13	21
LA Galaxy	1	12	4	7	15	36

SUNDAY, MAY 25
at New York City FC 3, Chicago 1
at Atlanta 4, Cincinnati 2

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
New England 1, at D.C. United 1
at Atlanta 3, Orlando City 2
FC Dallas 3, at Cincinnati 3
at Miami 4, CF Montreal 2
at New York 4, Charlotte FC 2
Houston 3, at New York City FC 0
Philadelphia 2, at Toronto FC 1
Nashville 2, at Columbus 2
at Seattle 1, San Diego FC 0
Real Salt Lake 1, at Austin FC 1
San Jose 1, at LA Galaxy 0
at Portland 2, Colorado 1
Minnesota 0, at Vancouver 0
Sporting KC at Los Angeles FC, ppd.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
D.C. United 2, at Cincinnati 1
at St. Louis City SC 2, San Jose 1
New York City FC 2, at Nashville 2
at Miami 5, Columbus 1
New England 3, at CF Montreal 0
at New York 2, Atlanta 0
Chicago 3, at Orlando City 1
Charlotte FC 2, at Toronto FC 0
at FC Dallas 0, Philadelphia 0
Sporting KC 3, at Houston 1
at LA Galaxy 2, Real Salt Lake 0
at San Diego FC 2, Austin FC 0
Colorado at Los Angeles FC, ppd.
Portland at Vancouver, ppd.

SUNDAY'S RESULT
Minnesota 3, at Seattle 2

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Chicago at D.C. United, 7:30
Austin FC at Colorado, 9:30

SUNDAY'S MATCHES
St. Louis City SC at Portland, 7
Seattle at Vancouver, 9
Sporting KC at Los Angeles FC, 9

THURSDAY, JUNE 12
Atlanta at New York City FC, 7:30

FRIDAY, JUNE 13
Toronto FC at Los Angeles FC, 10:30
San Jose at Portland, 10:30

SATURDAY, JUNE 14
D.C. United at Real Salt Lake, 9:30
LA Galaxy at St. Louis City, 4:30
Vancouver at Columbus, 7:30
Cincinnati at New England, 7:30
Charlotte FC at Phialdelphia, 7:30
New York at Austin FC, 8:30
Nashville at Chicago, 8:30
CF Montreal at Houston, 8:30
San Diego at Minnesota, 8:30
FC Dallas at Sporting KC, 8:30
Orlando City at Colorado, 9:30

USL Championship

EAST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Charleston	8	2	0	24	25	11
Louisville	6	0	4	22	15	5
Loudoun	7	3	0	21	19	10
North Carolina	5	3	2	17	15	11
Detroit City FC	4	2	5	17	15	13
Rhode Island FC	3	4	3	12	10	10
Pittsburgh	3	5	2	11	7	10
Birmingham	2	4	4	10	12	15
Miami	3	5	1	10	10	14
Indy	1	3	5	8	17	20
Hartford	1	5	3	6	9	16
Tampa Bay	1	7	2	5	9	18

WEST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New Mexico	7	3	0	21	15	9
El Paso	5	2	4	19	21	16
Tulsa	5	3	2	17	13	8
San Antonio	5	4	2	17	15	16
Phoenix	4	3	4	16	19	18
Monterey Bay FC	4	4	4	16	13	12
Orange County	4	5	1	13	13	17
Sacramento	3	2	4	13	15	10
Las Vegas	3	5	3	12	7	15
Colorado Springs	2	4	5	11	15	18
Oakland	3	7	1	10	13	22
Lexington SC	1	5	5	8	10	18

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Hartford 4, at Indy 4
Tulsa 1, at San Antonio 1
Phoenix 1, at Las Vegas 0

WEDNESDAY'S MATCH
Indy at Birmingham, 8

FRIDAY'S MATCH
North Carolina at Hartford, 7:30

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Charleston at Loudoun, 6
Detroit City FC at Pittsburgh, 7
Miami at Rhode Island FC, 7
Tampa Bay at Louisville, 8
Colorado at New Mexico, 9
Las Vegas at San Antonio, 9
Lexington SC at Monterey Bay FC, 10
El Paso at Oakland, 10
Orange County at Phoenix, 10:30
Tulsa at Sacramento, 11

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11
Rhode Island FC at Louisville, 8

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Kansas City	8	2	0	24	22	7
San Diego	6	2	2	20	21	12
Orlando	6	3	1	19	18	8
Washington	6	3	1	19	18	16
Portland	4	2	4	16	16	11
Seattle	4	4	2	14	9	9
Angel City	4	4	2	14	17	19
Louisville	4	4	2	14	12	16
Gotham FC	3	4	3	12	12	10
North Carolina	3	4	3	12	13	15
Bay FC	3	4	3	12	12	14
Houston	3	5	2	11	10	16
Utah	1	7	2	5	8	19
Chicago	1	8	1	4	6	22

SUNDAY, MAY 25
at San Diego 5, North Carolina 2

FRIDAY'S MATCHES
Utah at Louisville, 7:30
Seattle at San Diego, 10

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Kansas City at Gotham FC, 1
Houston at Orlando, 7
Portland at Bay FC, 7:30
Chicago at Angel City, 10

SUNDAY'S MATCH
North Carolina at Washington, 4

FRIDAY, JUNE 13
San Diego at Houston, 8
Gotham FC at Utah, 9:30
Orlando at Bay FC, 10

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

World Series

Double elimination; x-If necessary
At OGE Energy Field at the USA Softball Hall of Fame Complex; in Oklahoma City

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Game 1: Texas 3, Florida 0
Game 2: Oklahoma 4, Tennessee 3
Game 3: Texas Tech 1, Mississippi 0
Game 4: UCLA 4, Oregon 2

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Game 5: Tennessee 11, Florida 3 (5)
Game 6: Oregon 6, Mississippi 5 (10)

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Game 7: Texas 4, Oklahoma 2
Game 8: Texas Tech 3, UCLA 1

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Game 9: Tennessee 5, UCLA 4 (9)
Game 10: Oklahoma 4, Oregon 1

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Game 11: Texas 2, Tennessee 0
Game 13: Texas Tech 3, Oklahoma 2

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
Best of three; x-If necessary

Wednesday's game: Texas vs. Texas Tech
Thursday's game: Texas vs. Texas Tech
x- Friday's game: Texas vs. Texas Tech

GOLF

PGA Tour

FEDEX CUP LEADERS
Through June 1

	Points	Money
1. Scottie Scheffler	3,501	$14,558,697
2. Rory McIlroy	2,666	$13,978,340
3. Sepp Straka	2,479	$9,628,709
4. Justin Thomas	2,071	$8,795,520
5. Ben Griffin	1,903	$7,116,471
6. Russell Henley	1,706	$7,077,375
7. Maverick McNealy	1,514	$5,739,743
8. Andrew Novak	1,512	$6,111,380
9. Corey Conners	1,439	$4,994,073
10. Harris English	1,379	$4,969,883
11. Ludvig Aberg	1,355	$6,065,723
12. Shane Lowry	1,348	$5,951,758
13. Tommy Fleetwood	1,324	$4,428,031
14. Collin Morikawa	1,292	$6,501,305
15. J.J. Spaun	1,257	$5,344,182
16. Nick Taylor	1,254	$4,119,056
17. Patrick Cantlay	1,136	$3,907,046
18. Sungjae Im	1,112	$4,060,443
19. Hideki Matsuyama	1,095	$5,081,748
20. Daniel Berger	1,093	$3,798,009
21. Justin Rose	1,054	$4,182,019
22. Brian Harman	1,051	$3,519,695
23. Tom Hoge	1,012	$3,903,247
24. Michael Kim	996	$3,223,336
25. Keegan Bradley	974	$3,330,040
26. Thomas Detry	968	$3,093,365
27. Jacob Bridgeman	961	$3,050,353
28. Lucas Glover	902	$3,278,953
29. Taylor Pendrith	888	$2,986,568
30. Ryan Gerard	819	$2,739,455
31. Akshay Bhatia	800	$3,017,404
32. Min Woo Lee	790	$2,854,836
33. Joe Highsmith	788	$2,626,387
34. Denny McCarthy	787	$2,721,511
35. Viktor Hovland	785	$2,715,593
36. Sam Stevens	784	$2,809,131
37. Si Woo Kim	784	$2,857,588
38. Jordan Spieth	777	$2,791,621
39. Bud Cauley	768	$2,578,483
40. J.T. Poston	744	$2,331,525
41. Jhonattan Vegas	717	$2,109,845
42. Jason Day	716	$2,376,872
43. Stephan Jaeger	700	$2,369,151
44. Robert Macintyre	679

The Washington Post

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851 Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al.
6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,

vs.

WESLEY SUTTON (DECEASED)
7262 Mahogany Drive
Unit 6
Landover, MD 20785
Defendant(s).

Case No.C-16-CV-23-004027

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **15 day of May, 2025**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **7262 Mahogany Drive, Unit 6, Landover, MD 20785**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **16 day of June, 2025**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **16 day of June, 2025**. The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$210,125.00**.

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk, Circuit Court for
Prince George's County,
Maryland

BWW#MD-364680

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493612

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Diane S. Rosenberg
Mark D. Meyer
Sara Tussey
Andrew Higgins
Patrick Clowney, Jr.
4340 East West Highway,
Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
Substitute Trustee
Plaintiff(s)

V.

Rodney D Simms
5205 Doppler Street
Capitol Heights, MD 20743
Defendant(s)

Case No. C-16-CV-22-000924

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **14 day of May, 2025** by the Circuit Court for Prince George s County, Maryland, that the sale of **5205 Doppler Street, Capitol Heights, MD 20743**, made and reported, will be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **13 day of June, 2025**, provided a copy of this notice be inserted in The Washington Post, a daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **13 day of June, 2025**. The Report of Sale states the amount of the foreclosure sale price to be **$221,000.00**.

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Prince George's County,
Maryland

FILE NUMBER:22-001014-MD-F-1

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493573

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851 Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

ANDREW J. BRENNER, et. al.
6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,

vs.

RENARDO BLACKWELL
MONTE ANTHONY RUFFIN
13205 Lenfant Drive
Fort Washington, MD 20744
Defendant(s).

Case No.C-16-CV-24-006022

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **15 day of May, 2025**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **13205 Lenfant Drive, Fort Washington, MD 20744**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **16 day of June, 2025**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **16 day of June, 2025**. The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$345,000.00**.

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk, Circuit Court for
Prince George's County,
Maryland

BWW#MD-374169

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493609

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

ANDREW J. BRENNER, et. al.
6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,

vs.

ALICE MARIE DODD
6101 Hil Mar Drive
District Heights, MD 20747
Defendant(s).

Case No.C-16-CV-24-004090

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **15 day of May, 2025**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **6101 Hil Mar Drive, District Heights, MD 20747**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **16 day of June, 2025**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **16 day of June, 2025**. The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$248,000.00**.

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk, Circuit Court for
Prince George's County,
Maryland

BWW#MD-369870

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493608

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al.
6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,

vs.

LATESHA COAXUM
TIMOTHY COAXUM
15806 Appleton Terrace
Bowie, MD 20716
Defendant(s).

Case No.C-16-CV-23-004303

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **15 day of May, 2025**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **15806 Appleton Terrace, Bowie, MD 20716**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **16 day of June, 2025**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some newspaper published in Anne Arundel County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **16 day of June, 2025**. The report states that the amount of sale of the property at **434 SALISBURY ROAD, EDGEWATER, MD 21037** to be **$316,028.00**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court for
Anne Arundel County, MD.

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493521

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852 Anne Arundel County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Brendan Ferguson, et. al.
Substitute Trustees

Versus

Ryan Lance Davis
Defendant

No. C-02-CV-24-002765

NOTICE

Notice is hereby issued this **Tuesday, May 13, 2025** that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by John C. Hanrahan, Substitute Trustee BE RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **12th day of June 2025** next; provided, a copy of this Notice be inserted in some newspaper published in Anne Arundel County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **12th day of June 2025** next. The report states that the amount of sale of the property at **434 SALISBURY ROAD, EDGEWATER, MD 21037** to be **$316,028.00**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court for
Anne Arundel County, MD.

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493521

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872 Fairfax County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 8545 Blue Rock Lane, Lorton, VA 22079

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $205,214.00 dated November 5, 2012 recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for Fairfax County on November 6, 2012 as Instrument Number: 2012050222, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction, at the Main entrance of the courthouse for the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, 4110 Chain Bridge Rd, Fairfax, VA 22030 on **July 17, 2025 at 1:45 PM** the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and briefly described as: Lot Ninety Seven (97), Section Two (2), NEWINGTON HEIGHTS, Fairfax County, Virginia, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 6729, at page 551, among the land records of Fairfax County, Virginia. Tax ID: 0983 05 0097.

TERMS OF SALE: A bidder's deposit of $11,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Cash will not be accepted as a deposit. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustee may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. This is a communication from a debt collector. This notice is an attempt to collect on a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. (Trustee # 24-011139)

Substitute Trustee: ALG Trustee, LLC C/O Orlans Law Group PLLC PO Box 2548, Leesburg, VA 20177 (703) 777-7101 website: www.Orlans.com The Vendor VRM Mortgage Services will be used in conjunction with this sale.

May 27,Jun 3,10,17, 2025 0012492648

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 6030 Grove Drive, Alexandria, VA 22307

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $322,700.00 dated May 13, 2003 recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for Fairfax County on May 22, 2003 as Instrument Number: 2003017081.028, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction, at the Main entrance of the courthouse for the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, 4110 Chain Bridge Rd, Fairfax, VA 22030 on **July 17, 2025 at 1:45 PM** the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and briefly described as: Lot 38, Block Two (2), Section One (1), of the subdivision of "BELLE HAVEN", as shown on plat of resubdivision of Lts 22-30, Block 2, Section I, of BELLE HAVEN, among the land records of Fairfax County, Virginia. Tax ID: 0833 14020038.

TERMS OF SALE: A bidder's deposit of $12,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Cash will not be accepted as a deposit. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustee may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. This is a communication from a debt collector. This notice is an attempt to collect on a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. (Trustee # 25-005770)

Substitute Trustee: ALG Trustee, LLC C/O Orlans Law Group PLLC PO Box 2548, Leesburg, VA 20177 (703) 777-7101 website: www.Orlans.com

May 27,Jun 3,10,17, 2025 0012493177

873 Prince William County

Trustee's Sale 9561 CENTER ST UNIT 3G, MANASSAS, VA 20110 (Parcel ID: 101-04-00-1G-3G)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated 11/17/2023, in the original principal amount of $337,500.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the Prince William County, Virginia on 11/27/2023, as Instrument No. 202311270060672, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on **7/17/2025 at 10:00 AM**, Front steps of the Circuit Court For Prince Williams County, 9311 Lee Avenue, Manassas, Virginia 20110, the property designated as 9561 CENTER ST UNIT 3G, MANASSAS, VA 20110. All that certain lot or parcel of land, with any and all improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying, being and situated in:

All that certain lot or parcel of land together with improvements thereon, Situate, lying and being in the County of Prince William, Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:
Unit 3-G, Phase 3, Lee Square Condominiums as set forth in that Declaration of Condominium recorded as Instrument Number 201009090078257 and platted in Instrument Number 201009090078258 and 201009090078259 as amended in Instrument Number 201010150090400 and platted as Instrument Number 201010150090401, amended in Instrument Number 201011300106081 and platted as Instrument Numbers 201011300106082 and 201011300106083 and any and all amendments subsequent thereto, together with an undivided interest in the common elements as set forth in said Declaration, among the land records of Prince William County, Virginia.

TERMS: CASH. A deposit of $33,750.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than $9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review upon request before the sale, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector. Vylla Solutions - Virginia, LLC, 283 Constitution Drive, Suite 102, Office B, Virginia Beach, VA 23462, File No. 25-34041,
Tel: 888-313-1969

May 13,20,27,Jun 3,10,17,24,Jul 1,8, 2025 0012492948

877 Spotsylvania County

TRUSTEE SALE 11403 Gordon Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22407 Spotsylvania County

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $193,939.00, dated December 21, 2016 recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the Spotsylvania County, Virginia, in Document No. 160022633, at the request of the holder of the Note, the undersigned Substitute Trustee and will offer for sale at public auction at the entrance to the Spotsylvania County Judicial Center, 9107 Judicial Center Lane, Spotsylvania, on **July 1, 2025 at 11:00 AM** the property described in said deed, located at the above address and briefly described as:

Lot 3, Section 1, Summerset, with any improvements thereon

Subject to any and all covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other matters of record taking priority over the Deed of Trust, if any, affecting the aforesaid property.

TERMS OF SALE: CASH: A deposit of $20,000.00 or 10% of the sales price, whichever is lower, cash or certified check will be required at the time of sale, but no more than $9,000.00 of cash will be accepted, with settlement within fifteen (15) days from the date of sale . Sale is subject to post sale confirmation that the borrower did not file for protection under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code prior to the sale which affects the validity of the sale, as well as to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, the sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Pursuant to the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, we advise you that this firm is a debt collector attempting to collect the indebtedness referred to herein and any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.

SAMUEL I. WHITE, P.C.,
Substitute Trustee

This is a communication from a debt collector.
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
SAMUEL I. WHITE, P.C. **(91707)**
448 Viking Drive Suite 350
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
757-457-1460 - Call Between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
or visit our website at
www.siwpc.net

May 27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493850

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 12005 ANDORA DRIVE, FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22407

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated October 13, 2020, in the original principal amount of $296,127.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Spotsylvania County, Virginia as Instrument No. 200024435. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Spotsylvania County, 9107 Judicial Center Lane, Spotsylvania, Virginia, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on **July 29, 2025, at 3:45 PM**, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THE FOLLOWING-DESCRIBED LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND TOGETHER WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF SPOTSYLVANIA, COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA: LOT 7, AS SHOWN ON PLAT OF SECTION ONE, GRANTWOOD ACRES, MADE BY SULLIVAN-DONAHOE & INGALLS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS, DATE JUNE 10, 1976, A COPY OF WHICH PLAT IS DULY RECORDED IN THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF SPOTSYLVANIA, COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN DEED BOOK 402, AT PAGE 59.'

TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a $50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation.

Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-375880-1.

May 27,Jun 3,30, 2025 0012493619

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879 Culpeper County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 23389 CEDAR RIDGE ROAD, RAPIDAN, VA 22733

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated July 24, 2020, in the original principal amount of $220,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Culpeper County, Virginia as Instrument No. 200004743. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Culpeper County, at the corner of West Davis Street and North West Street in the Town of Culpeper, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on **July 2, 2025, at 1:15 PM**, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH ALL BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING AT THE INTERSECTION OF STATE ROUTE 648 AND U.S. ROUTE 15, KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 6 OF "MIDWAY COUNTRY ESTATES," AS SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SURVEY BY BRIAN THROSSELL, CLS, DATED JUNE 21, 1978, AND RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF CULPEPER COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN LARGE PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 6, WHICH PLAT WAS RECORDED AS PART OF THE DEED OF DEDICATION, DATED OCTOBER 4, 1978, AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 284, PAGE 116.

TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a $50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation.

Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-370966-2.

May 27,Jun 3, 2025 0012491779

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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Email us at: henry@oikiadoodle.com

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850 Montgomery County

Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
211 Jersey Ln
Rockville, MD 20850

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to GENUINE TITLE LLC, Trustee(s), dated February 22, 2007, and recorded among the Land Records of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 34106 , folio 664 , the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850 ON,

JUNE 11, 2025 at 11:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LOT NUMBERED EIGHT (8) IN BLOCK N IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "PLAT SIXTY-FIVE, FALLSGROVE", PER PLAT 22195, AND RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND. THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON BEING KNOWN AS 211 JERSEY LANE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850 TAX ID# 04-03376668

Property is subject to a prior mortgage.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $99,500.00 payable in certified check or by a cashier's check will be required from purchaser at time of sale, balance in immediately available funds upon final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 2.0002% on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020 . File No. (23-32857)

JOHN C. HANRAHAN, JEREMY B. WILKINS,
ROBERT A. OLIVERI, AMANDA DRISCOLE,
PAUL HEINMULLER, Substitute Trustees

HARVEY E WEST
AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

May 27,Jun 3,10, 2025 0012492698

850 Montgomery County

Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
17505 COUNTRY VIEW WAY
Ashton, MD 20861

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to FRIEDMAN & MAC FAYDEN PA, Trustee(s), dated May 15, 2006, and recorded among the Land Records of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 32676 , folio 605 , the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850 ON,

JUNE 11, 2025 at 11:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LOT NUMBERED SIXTEEN (16) IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "ASHTON MANOR", AS PER PLAT THEREOF DULY RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND IN PLAT BOOK 156 AT PLAT 17759.

Property is subject to a IRS Right of Redemption.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $68,000.00 payable in certified check or by a cashier's check will be required from purchaser at time of sale, balance in immediately available funds upon final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 2.0002 % on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020 . File No. (20-04795)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, JOHN C. HANRAHAN,
JEREMY B. WILKINS, AMANDA DRISCOLE,
ROBERT OLIVERI, PAUL HEINMULLER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY E WEST
AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

May 27,Jun 3,10, 2025 0012492401

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850 Montgomery County

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Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

1212 CABINWOOD PLACE SILVER SPRING, MD 20904

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated December 11, 2007, recorded in Liber 35295, Folio 190 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $392,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 20, 2025 AT 1:45 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $30,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 352225-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Jun 3,10,17, 2025 0012494111

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850 Montgomery County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

8417 FARRELL DRIVE CHEVY CHASE, MD 20815

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated November 21, 2016, recorded in Liber 53556, Folio 284 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $80,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 6, 2025 AT 3:23 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The property will be sold subject to a prior mortgage, the amount to be announced at the time of sale, if made available to the Substitute Trustees.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $8,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 373883-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493142

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850 Montgomery County

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Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

412 EAST FRANKLIN AVENUE SILVER SPRING, MD 20901

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated September 2, 2011, recorded in Liber 42201, Folio 454 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $311,888.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 13, 2025 AT 12:50 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $24,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 342889-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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May 27,Jun 3,10, 2025 0012493661

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850 Montgomery County

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6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

4 MONROE STREET, UNIT #1305 ROCKVILLE, MD 20850

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated April 5, 2017, recorded in Liber 54100, Folio 120 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $141,250.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 6, 2025 AT 3:17 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit number 4-1305 in a Plan of Condominium subdivision styled "Plan of Condominium Subdivision - Americana Centre" and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $12,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 366196-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493139

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850 Montgomery County

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6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

9415 MONROE STREET SILVER SPRING, MD 20910

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated October 6, 2017, recorded in Liber 55141, Folio 464 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $465,500.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 13, 2025 AT 12:52 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $42,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 330241-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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www.alexcooper.com

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493141

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850 Montgomery County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

18217 SWISS CIRCLE, UNIT #2-74 A/K/A UNIT #3 GERMANTOWN, MD 20874

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated March 26, 2008, recorded in Liber 35551, Folio 396 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $247,047.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 6, 2025 AT 3:21 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit numbered Seventy-four (74) in Building numbered Two (2) in a Condominium established as "Farmingdale Condominium, Phase Three" and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $22,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 372214-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

May 27,Jun 3,10, 2025 0012493662

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850 Montgomery County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

2208 COFFEEWOOD COURT SILVER SPRING, MD 20906

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated February 19, 2004, recorded in Liber 27232, Folio 388 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $330,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 6, 2025 AT 3:19 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $25,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 343061-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493140

McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, LLC
312 Marshall Avenue, Suite 800
Laurel, MD 20707
www.mwc-law.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

3225 WEST UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD, UNIT #22 KENSINGTON, MD 20895

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Lillian A. Wilson, dated July 8, 2010 and recorded in Liber 39862, folio 481 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof and at the request of the parties secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 13, 2025 AT 12:45 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Montgomery County, Maryland and described as Unit number 3225-G22 in a plan of condominium subdivision styled "Plan of Condominium - Montgomery Century Condominium" and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.
The property, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, encumbrances and agreements of record affecting the subject property, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit in the form of cashier's or certified check, or in such other form as the Substitute Trustees may determine, at their sole discretion, for $11,000 at the time of sale. If the noteholder and/or servicer is the successful bidder, the deposit requirement is waived. Balance of the purchase price is to be paid within ten (10) days of the final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase price at the rate of 5.25% per annum from date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees, if the property is purchased by an entity other than the noteholder and/or servicer. If payment of the balance does not occur within ten (10) days of ratification, the deposit will be forfeited as liquidated damages. The purchaser agrees that the property may be resold pursuant to an order of court, waives personal service upon themselves and/or any principal or corporate designee of any documents filed regarding the failure to pay the purchase price within ten (10) days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail of said documents at the address provided by the purchaser in the Memorandum of Sale. The purchaser will not be entitled to any surplus or profits arising from the resale even if they are the result of improvements made by the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event settlement is delayed for any reason. Taxes, water rent, and all other public charges and assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges to be adjusted for the current year to the date of sale, and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes (including agricultural transfer taxes, if applicable), and all settlement charges shall be borne by the purchaser. The sale is subject to a post sale audit of the loan, including but not limited to an analysis of whether the borrower entered into a loan modification agreement, filed bankruptcy, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. The Substitute Trustees will convey either insurable or marketable title. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable or marketable title or, the post sale audit concludes that the sale should not have occurred, or the sale is not ratified by the court for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the deposit without interest even if the purchaser has made improvements to the property. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. The purchaser at the foreclosure sale shall assume the risk of loss for the property immediately after the sale. (Matter #23-600696).

Laura H. G. O'Sullivan, et al., Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

May 27,Jun 3,10, 2025 0012493683

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850 Montgomery County

McMichael Taylor Gray LLC
7470 New Technology Way, Suite P
Frederick, MD 21703
470-480-1820

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

9911 GREENEL ROAD DAMASCUS, MD 20872

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated July 2, 2008, recorded in Liber 35878, Folio 549 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $150,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 6, 2025 AT 3:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #12-03343522.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The property will be sold subject to a prior mortgage, the amount to be announced at the time of sale.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $10,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 24-001223-02)
The property will be sold subject to a 120 day right of redemption by the Internal Revenue Service.

Diana Theologou, et al., Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012492631

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
15121 BARNESVILLE RD BOYDS, MD 20841

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated December 31, 2003, and recorded in Liber 26549, folio 449, of the land records of MONTGOMERY COUNTY , with an original principal balance of $220,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850 ON,

JUNE 18, 2025 at 1:15 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX-ID# - 02-00024506

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§11-110 and Â§11B-117.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $17,000.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 5.0% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such even this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (24-222753)

Keith Yacko, David Williamson,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jun 3,10,17, 2025 0012492468

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www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

8712 SUNDALE DRIVE SILVER SPRING, MD 20910

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Denise Andrea Smith dated March 25, 2005 and recorded in Liber 29669, folio 203 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 6, 2025 AT 3:12 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #13-01148675.
The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $20,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. There will be no reduction of interest due to overpayment of deposit. Adjustment of all real property taxes (excluding recapture of previously reduced or exempt taxes) and any other public charges or assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, and ground rent to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. All due and/or unpaid private utility, water and sewer facilities charges, condo/HOA assessments and Columbia Assoc. assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, are payable by the purchaser without adjustment. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes, recaptured taxes (including but not limited to agricultural taxes), and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.
If the Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, subject to order of the court, the entire deposit (including any amount received over the advertised deposit amount) shall be forfeited to the Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Defaulting purchaser waives personal service of any document filed in connection with such a motion on him/herself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such document by regular mail directed to the address provided by said purchaser at the time of the foreclosure auction. Trustees' file number 22-003279-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al., Trustees

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May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012493143

850 Montgomery County

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

304 KIMBLEWICK DRIVE SILVER SPRING, MD 20904

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Yu Wang and Guilan Liu dated December 30, 2014 and recorded in Liber 49673, folio 361 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 20, 2025 AT 1:40 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #05-00356141.
The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $20,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. There will be no reduction of interest due to overpayment of deposit. Adjustment of all real property taxes (excluding recapture of previously reduced or exempt taxes) and any other public charges or assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, and ground rent to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. All due and/or unpaid private utility, water and sewer facilities charges, condo/HOA assessments and Columbia Assoc. assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, are payable by the purchaser without adjustment. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes, recaptured taxes (including but not limited to agricultural taxes), and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.
If the Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, subject to order of the court, the entire deposit (including any amount received over the advertised deposit amount) shall be forfeited to the Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Defaulting purchaser waives personal service of any document filed in connection with such a motion on him/herself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such document by regular mail directed to the address provided by said purchaser at the time of the foreclosure auction. Trustees' file number 24-003455-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al., Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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www.alexcooper.com

Jun 3,10,17, 2025 0012494108

851 Prince Georges County

Samuel I. White, P.C.
448 VIKING DRIVE, SUITE 350
VIRIGINA BEACH, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
1503 Southern Springs Ln
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to LAWYERS TITLE INSURANCE CORP., Trustee(s), dated September 30, 2008, and recorded among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 30060, folio 220, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

JUNE 5, 2025 at 2:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT NO. 85, BLOCK "B", AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT ENTITLED, "PLAT TWO, HERITAGE GLEN", WHICH PLAT IS RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND IN PLAT BOOK REP 196 AT PLAT NO. 40.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000.00 PAYABLE ONLY BY certified funds, shall be required at the time of sale. CASH WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF DEPOSIT. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 3.5% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest for any reason. Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. There will be no abatement of taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments for any reason. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees for the Substitute trustees, plus all cost incurred, if the Substitute Trustee's have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. The purchasers waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with such a motion and expressly agrees to The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit.

The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into a repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sol remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Trustee's File No. (74553)

Robert A. Jones, et al SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012490895

851 Prince Georges County

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

4104 ROSEMARY LANE COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Jeffrey Lee Hall dated December 30, 2014 and recorded in Liber 39673, folio 361 among the Land Records of Prince George's County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JUNE 20, 2025 AT 1:40 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Prince George's County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #21-00356141.
The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $20,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. There will be no reduction of interest due to overpayment of deposit. Adjustment of all real property taxes (excluding recapture of previously reduced or exempt taxes) and any other public charges or assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, and ground rent to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. All due and/or unpaid private utility, water and sewer facilities charges, condo/HOA assessments and Columbia Assoc. assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, are payable by the purchaser without adjustment. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes, recaptured taxes (including but not limited to agricultural taxes), and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.
If the Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, subject to order of the court, the entire deposit (including any amount received over the advertised deposit amount) shall be forfeited to the Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Defaulting purchaser waives personal service of any document filed in connection with such a motion on him/herself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such document by regular mail directed to the address provided by said purchaser at the time of the foreclosure auction. Trustees' file number 24-003455-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al., Trustees

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Jun 3,10,17, 2025 0012494108

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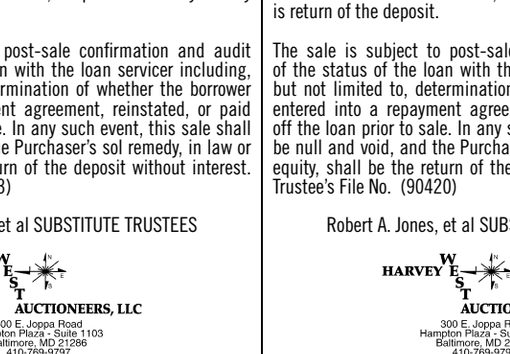

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VIRIGINA BEACH, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
1039 Dorset Drive
Waldorf, MD 20602

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to SHERIDAN TITLE, INC., Trustee(s), dated July 16, 2014, and recorded among the Land Records of CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 9002, folio 369, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE CHARLES COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 200 CHARLES STREET (IN THE BREEZEWAY BETWEEN CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS), LA PLATA, MD 20646 ON,

JUNE 5, 2025 at 12:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT NUMBERED ONE HUNDRED EIGHT (108), IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS, "ST. CHARLES, RESUBDIVISION OF SECTION V-A, PARCEL 5 AND SECTION V-B PARCEL 6", AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, IN PLAT BOOK PCM 25 AT PLAT 179.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000.00 PAYABLE ONLY BY certified funds, shall be required at the time of sale. CASH WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF DEPOSIT. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 4% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest for any reason. Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. There will be no abatement of taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments for any reason. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees for the Substitute trustees, plus all cost incurred, if the Substitute Trustee's have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. The purchasers waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with such a motion and expressly agrees to The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit.

The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into a repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sol remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Trustee's File No. (90420)

Robert A. Jones, et al SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012489339

855 Charles County

Samuel I. White, P.C.
448 VIKING DRIVE, SUITE 350
VIRIGINA BEACH, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
13554 South View Road
Newburg, MD 20664

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to GEORGE MANTAKOS, Trustee(s), dated September 24, 2013, and recorded among the Land Records of CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 08382, folio 0233, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE CHARLES COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 200 CHARLES STREET (IN THE BREEZEWAY BETWEEN CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS), LA PLATA, MD 20646 ON,

JUNE 5, 2025 at 12:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LOTS NO. 2 AND 3 OF BLOCK C, OF SECTION 3 OF SOUTH VIEW AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND IN PLAT BOOK NO. 6, FOLIO 53 (ERRONEOUSLY CITED FOLIO 63 IN PRIOR DEEDS)

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000.00 PAYABLE ONLY BY certified funds, shall be required at the time of sale. CASH WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF DEPOSIT. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 4.25% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest for any reason. Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. There will be no abatement of taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments for any reason. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees for the Substitute trustees, plus all cost incurred, if the Substitute Trustee's have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. The purchasers waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with such a motion and expressly agrees to The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit.

The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into a repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sol remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Trustee's File No. (91207)

Robert A. Jones, et al SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

May 20,27,Jun 3, 2025 0012490354

856 Frederick County

McMichael Taylor Gray LLC
7470 New Technology Way, Suite P
Frederick, MD 21703
470-480-1820

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

2107 BATTERY LANE FREDERICK, MD 21702

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated December 26, 2012, recorded in Liber 9349, Folio 288 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with a modified principal balance of $367,208.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

JUNE 20, 2025 AT 12:15 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #02-588529.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $52,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 24-002153-01)

Diana Theologou, et al., Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Jun 3,10,17, 2025 0012494106

856 Frederick County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

3053 LINDSEY COURT IJAMSVILLE, MD 21754

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated July 14, 2017, recorded in Liber 11982, Folio 200 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of $75,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

JUNE 20, 2025 AT 12:20 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The property will be sold subject to a prior mortgage, the amount to be announced at the time of sale, if made available to the Substitute Trustees.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $7,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 364948-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Jun 3,10,17, 2025 0012494109

856 Frederick County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

2522 EMERSON DRIVE FREDERICK, MD 21702

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated October 31, 2005, recorded in Liber 5889, Folio 260 and re-recorded in Liber 7069, Folio 346 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of $336,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

JUNE 20, 2025 AT 12:22 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $28,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 344238-7)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Jun 3,10,17, 2025 0012494110

JERRY BREWER

The young Thunder is laying waste to its opponents — and conventional wisdom

BREWER FROM D1

NATE BILLINGS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

If Shai Gilgeous-Alexander's Thunder defeats the Pacers in the NBA Finals, it will be the second-youngest team to win the championship.

Only two players have reached 30, and the only "old" rotation player is Alex Caruso, who turned 31 in February. Teammates playfully call him "OG," which is slang for original gangster. Or just old guy. Caruso is still in his prime, but born in 1994, he and reserve forward Kenrich Williams have at least three years on every other player on the roster.

Still, the Thunder finished 68-14 during the regular season, tied for the sixth-highest winning percentage (.829) in NBA history. OKC is the youngest team to win 60 games, and if it defeats the Indiana Pacers in the NBA Finals, it would be the second youngest to be crowned champion, just a hair older than the 1976-77 Portland Trail Blazers.

That team, led by a 24-year-old Bill Walton, went from 49-33 to postseason glory during a period of NBA parity similar to the current one. But the Thunder, which outscored opponents by a record 12.9 points over the first 82 games, is four victories from completing one of the best single-season performances the league has witnessed.

Oklahoma City's coach, Mark Daigneault, is a creative former Connecticut student manager who refined his strategies by walking up nearly every rung of the basketball ladder. The players are young and focused, versatile and unselfish, exciting and overpowering. They're likable, cute even, right down to standing as a group during those corny postgame interviews.

While celebrating their five-game romp through the Western Conference finals, players piled towels atop the shoulders of Daigneault during an interview. As he relayed all the superlatives about his players, he paused to grin and joke, "They're idiots."

Before this run, Golden State Warriors forward Draymond Green suggested the Thunder wasn't serious, too interested in its "bromance" to instill "fear" in opponents. Many ran with the notion that, to be so good on paper, Oklahoma City isn't scary.

Who knew the Thunder had to direct a horror movie to hoist a trophy?

OKC players are serious competitors who act childish upon victory. They're mature when they need to be, which enables them to turn all that youth into the energy necessary to play a relentless brand of basketball. It starts on the defensive end. A year ago, when the Thunder improved from 40-42 to 57-25, it was a top-five defensive team. This season, it enjoyed an 11-win improvement while leading the league in defensive efficiency. It is an elite offensive squad — with an unrivaled ball-hawking defense.

The Thunder forced a league-best 17 turnovers per game en route to that 68-14 record. In the playoffs, it has been even better, forcing 18 turnovers and scoring 23.8 points per game off opponent miscues. When challenged, Oklahoma City has been at its best. After the Denver Nuggets pushed it to a Game 7 in the second round, the Thunder responded with a defensive effort that forced 23 turnovers that led to 37 points in a 125-93 rout.

St. John's Coach Rick Pitino posted about his admiration of the Thunder's defense last week. Pitino, a Hall of Famer who has coached in college and the NBA, mentioned that he has "never" shown his NCAA teams video of NBA defenses in more than 40 years of coaching. Offense, absolutely. But defense? There was little from the NBA style of defending that he could incorporate in the college game.

"Until this past season," Pitino wrote.

He showed clips of the Thunder during multiple film sessions per week.

"Their switching, loading up to help, and rotations are awesome," he wrote. "And they're still so young!!!"

OKC doesn't do any single thing in an unprecedented way, but Daigneault has created something novel with his fusion of various concepts. The Thunder's personnel also makes it different. No team has five perimeter defenders the caliber of defensive superstar Lu Dort, MVP Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, Jalen Williams, Cason Wallace and Caruso. Power forward Chet Holmgren is among the league's best rim protectors. Center Isaiah Hartenstein, an offseason free agent addition, is the perfect fit. No matter who's in the lineup, there's little drop-off.

Versatility and discipline are the Thunder's biggest strengths. It starts big and swallows all the space with its size and length. Then it goes small and turns into a defense that swarms, scrambles and recovers without many missed assignments.

Traditionally, defensive mistakes are what make a coach leery to give minutes to inexperienced players. Despite having only four players with more than five years of NBA experience, Oklahoma City attacks with veteran-like attention to detail.

"It's hard to process because it was so different," Minnesota Timberwolves all-star guard Anthony Edwards said of the OKC defense. "It was always different every time. Heavy in the gaps. Sometimes trips the ball screens. Sometimes don't. They remind me of an AAU defensive team, just run and jump, fly around."

The Thunder is a team-building showpiece. It's a reflection of General Manager Sam Presti's willingness to think differently. In 2007, Presti was 30 years old when he was hired to rebuild the Seattle SuperSonics. He was by far the youngest leader of an NBA basketball operations department. For the past 18 years, he has led the organization through it all: relocation; the creation of the star-studded MVP trio of Kevin Durant, Russell Westbrook and James Harden; the premature departures and teardown of a memorable team that never got over the championship hump; the trades that stockpiled a preposterous collection of draft picks; two painful rebuilding years in which the team went a combined 46-108; and a reconstruction that has led to a level of dominance few saw coming.

This team is Presti's best work. When he was named executive of the year last month, it felt like both a season award and a recognition of his longtime stewardship of the roster. From his introduction 18 years ago, Presti has preached meticulous team-building, focusing on substance over style and aiming to create a basketball laboratory in which young players with the right mindset walked into a developmental safe space. Presti has created a culture of competition and experimentation, and to sustain it, the front office remains dedicated to looking deeply into players' makeup rather than following trends.

That's how you build a team without a defensive weak link. That's how you trade Paul George in a package whose return includes Gilgeous-Alexander and watch him grow into an MVP because you didn't impose any limitations. That's how you build a talented team despite having just one player drafted in the top five (Holmgren, No. 2 in 2022).

Right now, the Thunder is glued to the moment. Two years ahead of schedule, it has manipulated time in its favor.

Old basketball stereotypes don't apply to OKC. It's something new. And unusual. Scary, too.

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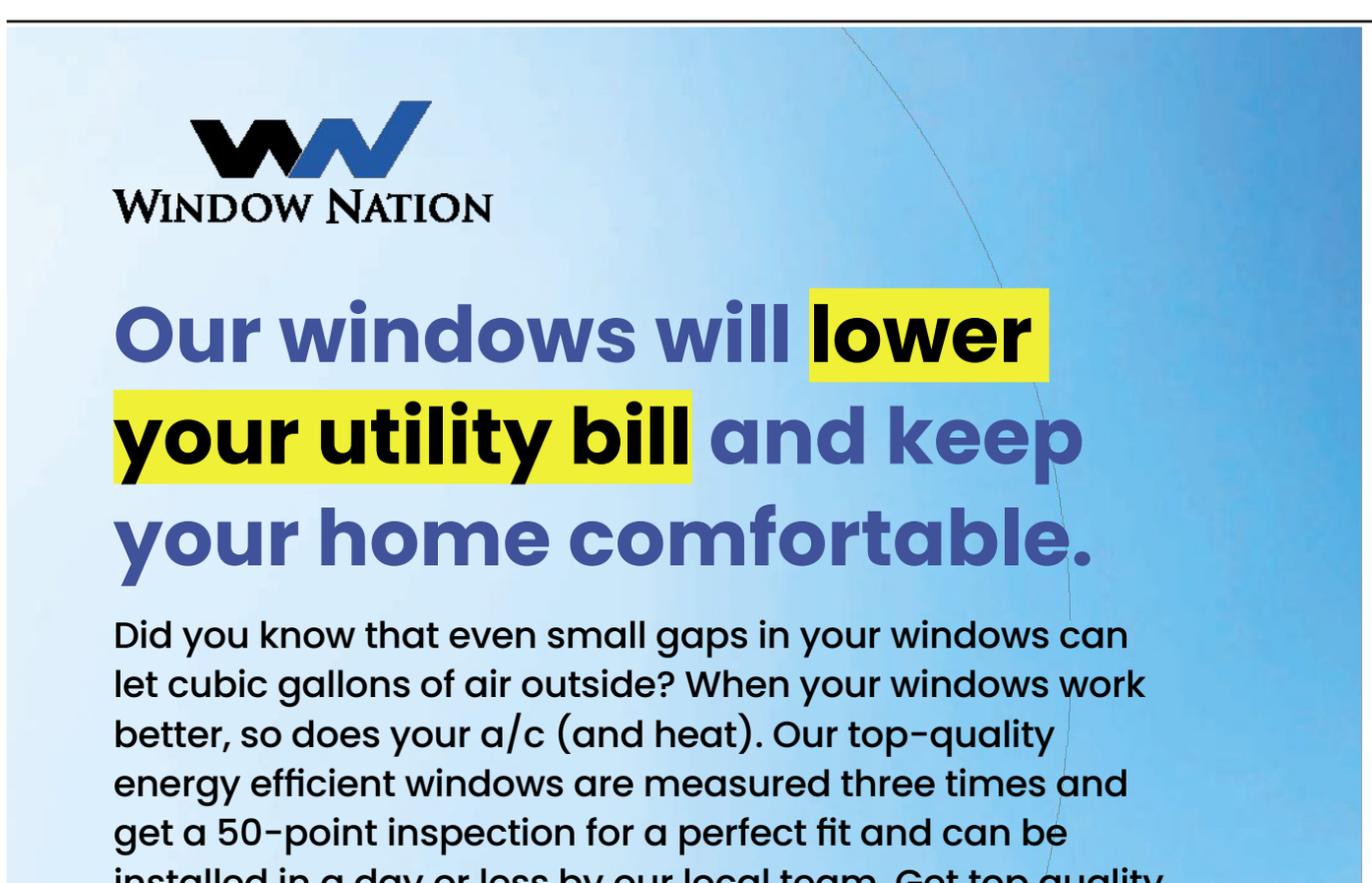

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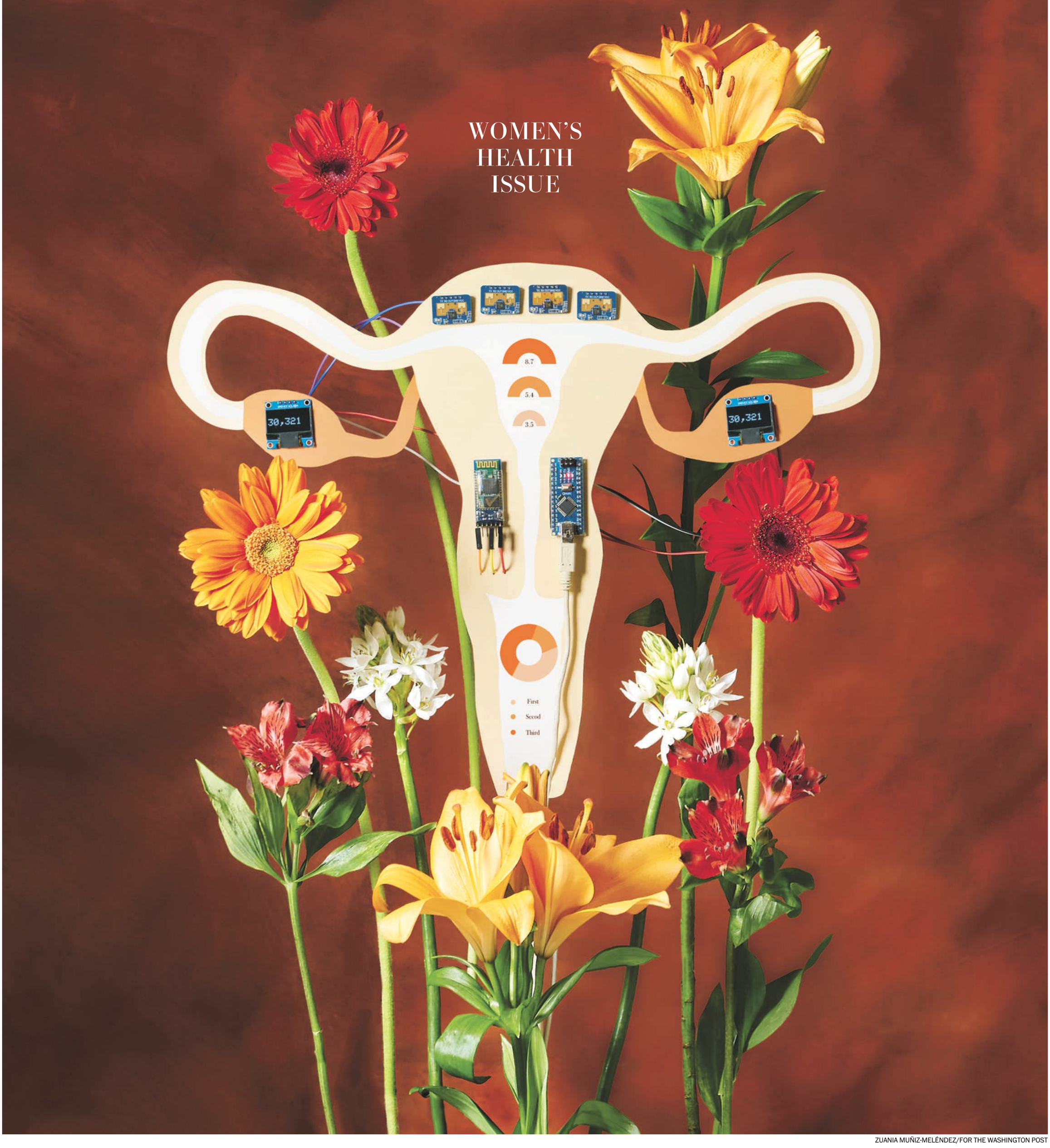
The Washington Post

HEALTH&SCIENCE

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025 · SECTION E

EZ EE

WOMEN'S HEALTH ISSUE



ZUANIA MUÑIZ-MELÉNDEZ/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Female bodies are more powerful than we realize

Experts point to ways women best men in physical strength

BY STARRE VARTAN

In September, Tara Dower became the fastest person ever to complete the Appalachian Trail. Her record — 40 days, 18 hours, and 6 minutes — was 4½ days faster than the previous record holder, a man. That same year, 18-year-old Audrey Jimenez made history in Arizona as the first girl to win a Division 1 high school state wrestling title — competing against boys.

Across a variety of sports, women are not just catching up after generations of exclusion from athletics — they're setting the pace. In ultramarathons, women regularly outperform men, especially as distances stretch toward the extreme. Jasmin Paris, who in 2024 became one of only 20 people ever to finish the brutal 100-mile Barkley Marathons race in under 60 hours — while pumping breast milk.

In long-distance swimming, female

SEE STRENGTH ON E4

'Femtech' is here. Proceed with caution.

BY KATHERINE ELLISON

Could you use some discreet help with birth control from a $14.99-a-month period-tracking app? ¶ How about a hands-free, wearable breast pump for $549; a $299 wristband to soothe hot flashes; or an extra-slim, temperature-neutral, LED-lit speculum to bring to gynecologists' appointments — part of a $125 kit including "comfy socks"? ¶ These products and more are part of a fast-growing industry known as "femtech" — high-tech solutions for women's health needs — whose many female founders say they're tackling age-old inequities.

SEE FEMTECH ON E4

WELL+BEING

This hot-flash drug may help women with breast cancer

BY LINDSEY BEVER

During breast cancer treatment, Sharity Keith began experiencing hot flashes and night sweats.

She had been placed on medications that caused her to start experiencing menopause symptoms. But because of her cancer, she was not a candidate for hormone therapy, which is considered the most effective treatment for many menopause symptoms, including hot flashes and night sweats.

Her hot flashes were so debilitating that her doctor prescribed several nonhormonal options off-label such as antidepressants and a nerve pain medication. Nothing worked.

"It was not unusual the first year for me to get up in the night and go out on our back deck in my underwear in 20-degree weather and just stand there," said Keith, 54, of Asheville, North Carolina. "I would sweat the sheets on the bed so bad that sometimes we'd have to get up in the middle of the night to change the sheets."

SEE HOT FLASH ON E5

THE OPTIMIST
Wildlife workers go the extra mile for an abandoned bear cub. E2

PAIN
What to know about discomfort and tingling in hands and feet. E3

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
A look at surprising side effects that can come with pregnancy. E6

THE OPTIMIST

Cub rescued from California woods is raised by humans dressed as bears

BY SYDNEY PAGE

A tiny black bear cub was crying alone in the California woods, his mother nowhere in sight. He was less than two months old and weighed about three pounds.

Campers in Los Padres National Forest found the baby bear on April 12 and the campgrounds host reported him to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Initially, biologists monitored the environment, with the hope that the cub's mother would return — but she did not. The cub couldn't survive on his own in the wild, so he was brought to San Diego Humane Society's Ramona Wildlife Center.

When he arrived, the cub was "extremely fragile," said Autumn Welch, wildlife operations manager at the center. "After going several days without nutrition, it was touch-and-go at first."

Now, though, just over five weeks since he was rescued, the cub is thriving. He has gained nearly 10 pounds and has reached several developmental milestones — including learning to climb. The cub is the youngest black bear cub San Diego Humane Society has cared for.

"I'm really proud of everyone here and what we've accomplished with this little cub," Welch said.

She and other staff at the wildlife center have spent the past few weeks feeding the cub multiple times a day and sometimes overnight. They also engage him in targeted activities to ensure the cub is learning survival skills. The goal is to release him back into the wild in about a year.

"For the most part, by a year, a bear cub should be able to be fine on their own," Welch said. "At that point, they've learned all the things they need to learn."

When staff interact with the cub, they are usually garbed head-to-toe in a bear costume. They wear a bear mask and an oversize fur coat, as well as leather gloves. They also rub black-bear-scented hay they got from a local sanctuary all over.

"We don't want him touching our skin at all," Welch said, explaining that they are trying to prevent the cub from forming bonds with humans, which would disrupt his natural instincts and make it more difficult for him to survive in the wild. "He never sees us as humans."

"We're dedicated to doing whatever we have to do to keep him wild," she said.

Indeed, beyond their bear costumes, staff have also created two habitats for the cub — one inside and one enclosed outside — that mimic the wilderness. They've built climbing structures made from natural trees, and they've covered the environments with leaf litter, dirt and branches. They also place stuffed bears around the habitat. The cub often cuddles up with the large one.

SAN DIEGO HUMANE SOCIETY

TOP: The San Diego Humane Society aims to release a rescued cub back into the wild in about a year. ABOVE: A costumed staff member sits with the cub, whose two habitats mimic the wild.

"It's his surrogate mama," Welch said. "He would lay with her instead of laying out in the open and being exposed."

The cub has reached several development markers. He has learned how to explore his habitat, dig through dirt to get insects, find shelter and make a nest. Welch said the cub is very playful, and he has learned to keep himself busy when they're not there to entertain him.

"Being able to entertain himself and play and explore is a milestone that's really important," Welch said.

The cub has also recently made the switch from liquid to solid foods. He's a big fan of fruit, and he also eats insects — mealworms, beetles and crickets — as well as kibble and willow leaves.

"He will sample just about anything we give him," said Welch, adding that they also give him a specialized formula that contains similar components to his mother's milk.

Staff also hide acorns around the cub's rooms for him to locate and eat.

"He uses his nose to go find them," Welch said. "It's pretty amazing how quickly he learns, and you can see him processing it when he's learning something new. He's very thoughtful."

Welch said the risk of the bear being a danger to staff is very low, given his age and size. If he starts interacting with them more than he should, "we redirect him a lot with the stuffed animals, or the other things in his habitat," she said. "Sometimes you can just show him a tree branch and shake the leaves a little bit and his whole focus will be on that."

Welch said the cub's case is rare. In the past five years, there have been only four cubs this young rescued and rehabilitated in California.

"Black bears are good moms, so it was very unusual for him to be alone with no sign of her," Welch said. "It was a very unique circumstance."

Looking after the baby bear requires extensive resources and time.

"It has been a pretty big commitment," said Welch, noting that the San Diego Humane Society does not receive state funding and relies on donations to treat wild animals in need. "We couldn't do it without the support that we get."

Welch said she and her team are looking forward to watching the cub continue to grow and eventually go live in the wilderness.

"There is nothing like releasing a bear back to the wild," she said. "It's an amazing feeling."

THE OPTIMIST

Fisherman discovers sunken ship, sets off search to identify Lake Michigan wreck

BY SYDNEY PAGE

Christopher Thuss was fishing on a foggy evening near Manitowoc, Wisconsin, when his sonar detected something strange beneath the surface of Lake Michigan.

"I was slowly taking my time going down the shoreline," said Thuss, 25, adding that he uses sonar to find fish and objects underwater. "I saw a couple pieces of wood, so I turned my boat to that direction."

That's when he came across the entire midsection of a ship that had sunk more than a century ago.

Thuss is an avid fisherman, and his sonar had detected other shipwrecks while fishing in Door County, which is on a peninsula between Green Bay and Lake Michigan and is known for its many shipwrecks. But the discovery he made May 13 was different, as the wreck had not been previously identified.

"I've spent a pretty decent amount of time fishing and being around other shipwrecks, so I knew what I was looking at," he said. "This is the first one I've found that has been unidentified and unknown."

The shipwreck is nine feet below the surface, and it is 160 feet long.

"I took my time evaluating," Thuss said. "It was really exciting."

Thuss reported his finding to Tamara Thomsen, a maritime archaeologist with the Wisconsin Historical Society, and sent her the sonar images.

"I was like, 'Oh, yeah, that's a shipwreck,'" Thomsen said.

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY/WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The J.C. Ames was a tugboat that was intentionally sunk in 1923.

Thomsen and her diving partner visited the scene to measure and document the sunken vessel. Working alongside Brendon Baillod, president of the Wisconsin Underwater Archeology Association, the team identified the ship as the J.C. Ames — a massive tugboat that sank in 1923.

"Through deductive reasoning, we were able to get to that name," Thomsen said. "It's like putting a puzzle together."

Thomsen explained that the vessel is in a ship graveyard — an area where decommissioned ships are abandoned — though it had not been located until now.

Thomsen said finding abandoned boats is difficult, because they are often covered in sand and sediment.

"It has to be the perfect conditions," she said. "He was in the right place at the right time."

The J.C. Ames was built in 1881 for the lumber and pulpwood trades, and later it was used for transporting railway cars. Eventually, the vessel became dilapidated and could no longer be repaired. It was dismantled and deliberately set on fire in 1923.

"They stripped it and took any usable machinery to repurpose … and they set it ablaze," Thomsen said. "People came and watched them burn the ship. It was like an event in town. That was pretty common."

As the flames consumed the structure, the hull flooded with water and sank. Thomsen said the ship is very large for a tugboat — the ships are generally smaller and are designed to tow or push other vessels.

"It was an enormous tugboat," she said. "It was one of the biggest, if not the biggest tug on Lake Michigan."

Thuss was first exposed to shipwrecks as a child, as his stepgrandmother — whose nickname is "Shipwreck Suzze" — spent her retirement searching for sunken ships. She operated a powered parachute and ultralight plane, and in 2015 she famously found three shipwrecks in three days in Lake Michigan.

"It was definitely my first stepping stone to learning about this," Thuss said. "As I've grown older, it's been something I admire more."

Although Thuss does not actively scout for shipwrecks, he said, they are in the back of his mind when he is fishing.

"I've always wanted to come across something like this, and it was pretty cool," he said.

Thomsen praised Thuss for reporting his find.

"This is sort of ingrained in his roots," Thomsen said. "It's pretty amazing."

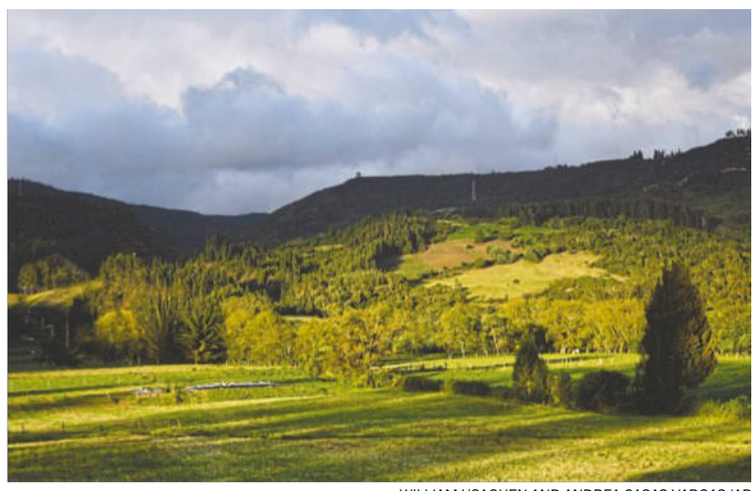
Archaeologists with the Wisconsin Historical Society plan to list the J.C. Ames on the State Register of Historic Places, and eventually they hope to secure a spot on the National Register of Historic Places. Given its shallow depth and relatively intact structure, Thomsen believes the shipwreck could become a popular destination on Lake Michigan.

"It will be a great place for people to kayak and snorkel," she said.

Thuss said he is still feeling the thrill of his historic discovery.

"It's definitely exciting to be tied to a piece of Great Lakes history," he said.

SCIENCE NEWS



WILLIAM USAQUEN AND ANDREA CASAS-VARGAS/AP

The group lived in present-day Bogotá, Colombia, scientists said, and may help efforts to piece together the history of the Americas.

Ancient DNA offers evidence of hunter-gatherers who lived near land bridge between the Americas

BY ADITHI RAMAKRISHMAN

Scientists have identified a new pod of ancient hunter-gatherers who lived near the land bridge between North America and South America about 6,000 years ago.

Researchers are still charting how human populations spread across the Americas thousands of years ago, arriving first in North America before veering south. Groups that split off developed their own collection of genes that scientists can use to piece together the human family tree.

Discovered through ancient DNA, the group lived in the high plateaus of present-day Bogotá, Colombia — close to where the Americas meet.

Scientists aren't sure exactly where they fall in the family tree because they're not closely related to ancient Native Americans in North America and also not linked to ancient or present-day South Americans.

The new study was published Wednesday in the journal Science Advances.

"Up to this point, we didn't believe there was any other lineage that would appear in South America," said Andre Luiz Campelo dos Santos, an archaeologist with Florida Atlantic University who was not involved with the new research. "This is unexpected."

Just 4,000 years later, these ancient humans were gone and a genetically different human clan inhabited the area. Scientists aren't sure exactly what happened to make them fade away — whether they mixed into a new, bigger group or were pushed out entirely.

Analyzing more genes in South America will help confirm whether this new group truly did disappear or if there could be evidence of their descendants elsewhere, said Campelo dos Santos.

Studying these ancient Colombian genes are important to piecing together the history of the Americas, since ancient people had to cross this land bridge to settle in and spread across South America.

The area is "the gateway to the South American continent," said study author Andrea Casas-Vargas with the National University of Colombia.

— Associated Press

SCIENCE SCAN

ADRIÁN SANCHEZ-GONZALEZ/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

An international team is using a satellite to assess Earth's rivers, lakes and oceans, including the Yellowstone River in Montana.

FLOODING

Satellite measures long river waves for first time

BY ERIN BLAKEMORE

SWOT Captures Hydrologic Waves Traveling Down Rivers

Geophysical Research Letters

Long river waves, known as flow waves, have been measured by satellite for the first time, researchers announced May 14, a breakthrough that could expand understanding of river dynamics, floods and the other hazards sometimes present when the waves form.

In a study in Geophysical Research Letters, the researchers found that the long waves can be spotted and studied using data from a NASA-French space agency satellite designed to study Earth's water.

The study used satellite data from the Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) mission. The satellite was launched in 2022 and is being used by an international team of hydrologists and oceanographers to assess Earth's rivers, lakes, oceans and coastal areas. Its high-tech radar instruments are capable of measuring water elevation and, it turns out, river waves.

The researchers assessed flow waves on the Colorado River in Texas, the Ocmulgee River in Georgia and the Yellowstone River in Montana. SWOT yielded a lot of data about river waves, showing their location and elevation and helping the researchers estimate their length.

And the waves were extremely long: The Colorado River wave stretched for at least 165.9 miles, or 267 kilometers, while the Ocmulgee River wave was about 102.5 miles, or 165 kilometers. The satellite data helped researchers conclude that the Yellowstone River wave probably arose in the aftermath of an ice jam upstream.

The waves often form because of a sudden storm or a dam break, and a new way of observing them could help predict and prepare for the dangers they cause.

"We're learning more about the shape and speed of flow waves, and how they change along long stretches of river," lead author Hana Thurman said in a news release. "That could help us answer questions like, how fast could a flood get here and is infrastructure at risk?"

Now that researchers know SWOT can help them study river waves, they can study them worldwide, they wrote. The new data can be used as a baseline so future researchers can better assess the effects of climate change on flood events, they added.

The SWOT satellite is a joint mission between NASA and the French space program, with contributions from Canada and Britain's space programs.

HEALTH & SCIENCE

Editors: Margaret Shapiro, Mary-Ellen Deily • **Art Director:** Kathleen Rudell Brooks • **Photo Editor:** Maya Valentine • **Copy Editor:** Mike Cirelli • **Advertising Information:** Ron Ulrich, 202-334-5289, *ronald.ulrich@washpost.com* • **To contact us:** Email: *health-science@washpost.com*. Mail: The Washington Post, Health, 1301 K St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20071

BIG NUMBER

12 percent

At age 11, daily physical activity was associated with a 12 percent lower risk of a psychiatric diagnosis at age 18 for every hour of activity recorded, according to research published in the British Journal of Sports Medicine. The study examined data from over 16,000 children born between 1997 and 1999 in Sweden whose families recorded their daily physical activity information at ages 5, 8 and 11. Physical activity decreased the risk of anxiety by almost 40 percent for boys at both 5 and 11, the study found. The same held true for depression and boys: Physical activity was associated with a 19 percent reduction in depression among boys at age 5 and 23 percent at age 8. At age 11, physical activity was associated with a decreased risk for depression for both boys and girls. Participation in organized sports at age 11 correlated with a reduced risk of mental health diagnoses — 12 percent lower for girls and 23 percent for boys, the researchers wrote. In a trend the researchers called "problematic," the children's daily physical activity levels declined between ages 5 and 11 from just over four hours to 2½ hours per day. The researchers wrote that ages 10 to 12 might be a critical period for the development of psychological resilience. Physical activity and participation in organized sports, they stressed, might provide a protective effect against future incidence of several childhood psychiatric diseases.

— Ian McMahan

HEALTH NEWS

Even if you have darker skin, it's still important to wear sunscreen daily, dermatologists caution

BY ADITHI RAMAKRISHNAN

The melanin in darker skin offers some extra protection from the sun, but dermatologists say people with darker skin still need to wear sunscreen.

"Everyone needs sunscreen. But the reasons that one might be reaching for sunscreen may differ depending on your skin tone," said Jenna Lester, who founded the Skin of Color Clinic at the University of California at San Francisco.

Overall, White people are more likely to get skin cancer than Black and Hispanic people. But Black and Hispanic people are less likely to survive the most dangerous kind of skin cancer called melanoma, according to the American Cancer Society.

Black patients more commonly get melanoma on their hands and feet, which are more shielded from the sun. Sunscreen is an additional protective layer that helps prevent a host of other problems including sunburns, hyperpigmentation after acne, rosacea and dark patches on the face.

Oyetewa Asempa at Baylor College of Medicine often reminds her darker-skinned patients: "All of the problems that you're coming to see me for are caused or worsened by the sun."

To stay safe in the sun, it's important to grab sunscreen with a sun protection factor, or SPF, of at least 30 and reapply every two hours. People headed for the pool or beach should put on sunscreen beforehand, remembering to reapply liberally and after getting out of the water.

Most people don't wear enough sunscreen when they apply, Lester said. Make sure to put two long fingers' worth on the face and a hefty blob for the body.

Look for chemical-based sunscreens to avoid ashy white cast. Two key ingredients in mineral-based products — zinc oxide and titanium oxide — are the culprits for that pesky discoloration on dark skin.

Tinted sunscreens contain pigments that block visible light from the sun, offering additional protection against dark spots. And wearing a hat or sun-protective clothing with an ultraviolet protection factor or UPF grading can provide an extra safety boost.

Whatever the sun protection routine, it's important to keep it up, Lester said. Some UV rays can climb right through car and house windows to cause sun damage even when indoors, making it even more important to take care of the skin while the sun shines.

"It's about trying to make it a daily habit," she said. "Consistency over intensity."

— Associated Press

HEALTH SCAN

ISTOCK

All types of cyberbullying carried a similar risk, the study found.

MENTAL HEALTH

Researchers warn that cyberbullying can cause trauma in children and shouldn't be trivialized

BY ERIN BLAKEMORE

Cyberbullying through the lens of trauma: an empirical examination of US youth

BMC Public Health

Cyberbullying in any form can cause symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and should be considered an "adverse childhood experience" (ACE), a recent analysis finds.

Writing in BMC Public Health, researchers drew from a nationally representative sample of 13-to-17-year-olds in the United States, homing in on the 53.9 percent of the group that reported having been cyberbullied in the past.

More than half of that group said someone had posted mean or hurtful comments online, spread rumors online, or intentionally excluded them from a group text or chat within the previous 30 days.

Boys who experienced these forms of cyberbullying "scored significantly lower than girls on the trauma scale," and younger students reported more trauma than their older counterparts.

The more often a student was bullied online, the more trauma they reported, but the type of cyberbullying was not linked to trauma severity.

"As our research clearly shows, cyberbullying in any form — whether it's exclusion from a group chat or direct threats — can lead to significant trauma in youth," Sameer Hinduja, a professor in Florida Atlantic University's School of Criminology and Criminal Justice and the paper's lead author, said in a news release. "We were surprised to find that no single type of cyberbullying caused more harm than others; all carried a similar risk of traumatic outcomes. This means we can't afford to dismiss or trivialize certain behaviors as 'less serious' — being left out or targeted by rumors can be just as detrimental as more overt attacks."

Because of the link between cyberbullying and symptoms of PTSD, the researchers write, schools must provide trauma-sensitive care and skill-building to help students develop good coping mechanisms. Schools should help students, including by developing crisis intervention plans, to help kids deal with cyberbullying.

"It seems vital to avoid prioritizing or trivializing any particular type [of cyberbullying] over another," they conclude.

FROM CONSUMER REPORTS

Understanding nerve pain and possible treatments

BY HALLIE LEVINE

ISTOCK

Have you experienced pain or tingling in your hands or feet? Those are signs of possible neuropathy, "a general term for nerve dysfunction in your limbs," says Eva Feldman, a professor of neurology at the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor.

The likelihood of neuropathy appears to increase with age. That's partly because the number of nerve cells in your body declines over the years, and those that remain become less functional. And "if they are damaged by injury or an underlying medical condition, they struggle more to recover," says Anne Louise Oaklander, an associate professor of neurology at Harvard Medical School.

Chronic conditions such as diabetes, as well as autoimmune disease and treatments such as some kinds of chemotherapy, can cause neuropathy, too, Oaklander says. Long-term untreated hypothyroidism, kidney disease and obesity also can increase the risk, according to the Mayo Clinic. Another potential cause is vitamin B12 deficiency, which is thought to affect at least 20 percent of adults over age 60, says Kunal Desai, an assistant professor of neurology at the Yale School of Medicine in New Haven, Connecticut. Here's what to do if you think you have neuropathy.

Spotting the signs

Tingling or painful sensations in your hands and/or feet are the main symptoms. "Patients often describe it as feeling like ants crawling on their feet, or even as prickling or burning," Feldman says. Another red flag is numbness in your hands or feet that leaves you feeling unsteady.

If you have any of the above, call your doctor right away. That's especially important if you have a chronic condition such as Type 2 diabetes or you're being treated with certain chemotherapy drugs.

Getting diagnosed

Your primary care practitioner will examine you, including the skin on your hands and feet, to look for fissures or cracks. They'll test your reflexes and might use a tuning fork in the area to see whether you can feel the vibration or prick you with a pin to see whether you feel pain. They might check the strength in your hands and feet, as well.

If any results are abnormal, you'll probably have tests of your nerves for confirmation and, if those results are abnormal, blood tests to check for contributing conditions such as Type 2 diabetes, Oaklander says. If the neuropathy is on only one side or is worse on one side, Feldman says, you'll need to see a neurologist to rule out more serious conditions such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Finding relief

How your neuropathy is treated usually depends on the cause, Feldman says. If it's Type 2 diabetes, exercise and weight loss, if needed, can improve symptoms, according to a 2022 review in the journal Lancet Neurology. Neuropathy due to an autoimmune disorder, hypothyroidism or a vitamin B12 deficiency often eases once the underlying condition is corrected. If it's caused by chemotherapy, your doctor may change your regimen or advise a treatment break.

If those steps aren't enough, medication may help. The American Academy of Neurology advises trying tricyclic antidepressants like amitriptyline, serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors such as duloxetine (Cymbalta) and venlafaxine (Effexor ER) or gabapentinoids like gabapentin (Neurontin and others). A topical prescription capsaicin patch helps, but it can cause a rash or burning sensation.

If you have foot neuropathy, you should see a podiatrist several times a year to have your feet checked for sores, ulcers and signs of infection. You should also examine your feet daily.

And if you're 50 or older, experts say to make sure to get Shingrix, the two-dose shingles vaccine. Shingles can cause a painful condition called postherpetic neuralgia, which has symptoms similar to neuropathy, Feldman says. Shingrix has been found to be more than 90 percent effective at preventing it in people who get shingles.

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WELL+BEING

Vitamin D shows promise for slowing aging in study

BY CAREN CHESLER

ISTOCK

A study found that vitamin D might delay a biological mechanism tied to aging, but experts say most people don't need supplements.

People who have a higher vitamin D intake may be slowing down a biological process linked to aging, according to a study published in May.

But don't rush out to buy supplements just yet. The findings need to be confirmed with additional research, and the vast majority of people in the United States are already getting enough vitamin D from diet and sunlight, experts say.

In the new analysis, researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and other universities looked at telomeres — the protective caps of DNA code at the ends of chromosomes — which tend to shorten as we age.

It's a biological "clock" of sorts, and shorter telomeres have been linked to an increased risk of certain diseases. Vitamin D supplements, though, may slow that shrinking process, the new research, published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, has found.

While previous studies have shown an association between vitamin D and telomere length, most were observational. The new study is randomized, double-blind and placebo-controlled, lending more credence to the findings.

"We think these findings are promising and warrant further study. But we think that the replication will be important before changing the general guidelines for vitamin D intake," said JoAnn Manson, a co-author of the study and chief of the Division of Preventive Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Reduced telomere shortening

The findings are part of a larger study, called the VITAL trial, that Manson and other researchers from Brigham and Women's Hospital, an affiliate of Harvard Medical School, have been conducting for five years. It involves 25,871 participants — U.S. women age 55 and older and men age 50 and older — who have been given 2,000 IUs of vitamin D3 a day and 1 gram of omega-3 fatty acid a day to determine their effects primarily on cancer and cardiovascular disease prevention.

The telomere study focused on about 900 of those participants, largely from Boston, whose telomere length in white blood cells was assessed at baseline and again in years 2 and 4.

Researchers found that compared with the group taking the placebo, those taking vitamin D supplements had reduced telomere shortening over four years. Omega-3 fatty acid supplementation, on the other hand, had no obvious effect on telomere length.

How telomeres may be associated with aging

During each cell division, telomeres ensure that the cell's chromosomes do not fuse with one another or rearrange themselves, and with each replication, the telomeres shorten a bit. This process is associated with aging as well as an increased risk of infections, Type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.

The researchers think that vitamin D supplementation's benefit is related to tamping down inflammation, Manson said. Inflammation has been associated with autoimmune diseases as well as cancer.

Healthy diet and lifestyle are critical

While vitamin D may have benefits, Manson emphasized that it is not a cure-all. There are many chronic diseases that do not seem to be reduced by vitamin D supplementation, she said.

"Dietary supplements will never be a substitute for healthy diet and healthy lifestyle, and we've made it very clear time and again that the focus should be on the diet and lifestyle rather than on supplementation," she said. "However, targeted supplementation for people who have higher levels of inflammation or a higher risk of chronic diseases clearly related to inflammation, those high-risk groups may benefit from targeted vitamin D supplementation."

The telomere study was randomized, meaning participants were randomly assigned to either the vitamin D supplement group or the placebo group to ensure that characteristics such as age, health status, diet and lifestyle are balanced between the groups. Randomization is considered the gold standard in clinical research because it makes the groups as similar as possible at the start of the study.

"All of the risk factors for chronic disease, for telomere shortening, the age, the demographics, the physical activity, diet, underlying health, hypertension, diabetes, all these risk factors are balanced out by the randomization process," Manson said, meaning the only difference between the two groups was that one received vitamin D and one did not. And the study was also "double-blinded," meaning that not only did the participants in each group not know which was receiving the supplement, but neither did the technicians administering it.

What other research and experts say

Not all studies have been as promising with regard to telomere preservation. A paper published in 2023 in the Journal of Nutrition, Health and Aging, for instance, concluded that "routinely supplementing older adults, who are largely vitamin D replete, with monthly doses of vitamin D is unlikely to influence telomere length."

Between 2014 and 2020, researchers at the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute in Brisbane, Australia, led a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of 1,519 participants, to see whether vitamin D supplementation would affect telomere length. They gave the supplement monthly to half of the participants and found no difference between those who received it and those who did not.

Carol Greider, a professor at the University of California at Santa Cruz who won the 2009 Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine for her discovery of telomerase, an enzyme that protects telomeres from shortening, said in an email that she was skeptical of the new study's findings.

Quantitative polymerase chain reaction, or qPCR, an assay that was used in the recent study to measure telomere length, has been shown in a number of publications to be unreliable, Greider wrote. The clinical standard for measuring telomere length is a technique called Flow FISH, which is highly reproducible.

Greider also noted that different subtypes of blood cells have different telomere lengths, so any changes in the cell type distribution in the blood could raise or lower the blood's average telomere length, not because the length changed but because the types of cells present changed.

She cited a perspective published in Aging Cell in March, in which the authors question research from 2024 that suggested spaceflight, like the Inspiration4 mission, which lasted just three days, increased the average telomere length of the white blood cells of those on the flight.

It's not that the telomeres are longer, the authors of the Aging Cell article wrote; it's that the composition of their white blood cells changed, raising the average telomere length.

"So while there may or may not be an effect of Vitamin D on telomeres, the methods used in this study are unlikely to be able to accurately document those changes without any control for cell type distributions," Greider wrote.

WOMEN'S HEALTH ISSUE

Women's health is target of rising technology marketplace

FEMTECH FROM **E1**

Investors have jumped in, growing the market from $40.2 billion in 2020 to a projected $75 billion this year. And that's just for starters: A "ghost market" of strategies to address "profoundly underserved women's health needs" could reap up to $360 billion, a venture capital firm reported in March.

"Many areas of women's health — like menstrual pain, endometriosis, polycystic ovarian syndrome, preeclampsia, and menopause — have been overlooked for so long by traditional medicine that women have had to take these problems into their own hands and innovate," said Elizabeth Gazda, CEO of Embr Labs, which makes the wristband to treat hot flashes. "And because these innovations are occurring at a time of expanding technological ability, with cloud computing and ubiquitous smartphone adoption, women's health is now leapfrogging men's health."

Still, the surge of products has raised concerns about quality control, pricing and privacy. Some experts doubt that femtech has made true progress in correcting historic inequities.

"Why is it that we as women need to close the gender health gap by buying all kinds of expensive commercial-health applications?" asked Naomi Jacobs, an assistant professor in bioethics at the University of Twente in the Netherlands and co-author of a 2023 critique. "Even if they're not that expensive, because they're apps, we're paying with our most intimate data."

Gender equity gap

Historically, researchers, entrepreneurs and many doctors have paid less attention to female health concerns than male ones.

As of 2015, women still accounted for less than 35 percent of participants in early-stage clinical trials, researchers at the University of North Carolina wrote in a 2023 paper. Even by 2020, only 5 percent of global research and development funds went to women's health, according to a 2024 editorial in the journal Nature Reviews Bioengineering.

In contrast, femtech websites express missionary zeal about disrupting birth control, pregnancy, reproductive-organ illnesses and menopause.

"We want to live in a world where women are empowered by knowledge about their bodies," says the website for Kegg, which makes a ($299) device that tracks fertility by analyzing cervical fluid.

The site for Elvie, which sells the wearable breast pump, plus a $199 pelvic-floor "trainer" to assist with Kegel exercises, says society "gaslights the transformative effects of motherhood on women's lives — known as matrescence."

Ida Tin, the Danish founder of Clue, a period-tracking app, is widely credited with coining the term "femtech" in 2016, to refer to "any technology geared toward improving women's lives." It was a way to help women entrepreneurs find each other, she said, and also put some pizzazz in their pitches. Investors, Tin has said, can now say: "'I have four femtech companies in my portfolio' instead of 'I have a company for women peeing in their pants.'"

Pregnant with promise — and risks

To appreciate the femtech marketing bonanza, check out the Oprah Daily 2025 Menopause O Awards. Amid a dizzying assortment of face-smoothing serums, hair-growth systems, and supplements for brain fog and mood swings — all endorsed by six ob-gyn docs who have also written books — you will find a $248 sonic-wave vibrator, a $239 wristband to track your sleep and a $900 "Rolls-Royce of room fans."

Can commerce succeed where scientists, governments and health insurance plans have failed? Beyond that abstract question lie more pragmatic concerns.

"New apps keep coming," said Valerie Lynn Baker, director of the division of reproductive endocrinology and infertility at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. "Patients often ask about particular ones, but it's hard to know how valid each one is."

In other words, many femtech innovations have not yet advanced to the point where a woman should trust the app above a doctor or nurse practitioner, Baker said.

That means buyers should beware of products lacking external validation — and maybe even some that have it.

In 2018, the Food and Drug Administration approved a smartphone app made by the Swedish firm Natural Cycles as the "first direct-to-consumer app for contraceptive use." At the time, the company was being investigated in Sweden after reports that 37 women who had used the app had aborted unwanted pregnancies.

A British regulator banned an ad claiming the app was "highly accurate." But the Swedish agency later closed its investigation after finding the app's failure rate was roughly 7 percent, in line with the company's findings for "typical use."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has described "fertility awareness-based methods" such as Natural Cycles as having a 2 to 23 percent failure rate.

Women also have reason to fear loss of privacy when they submit health-related data to for-profit businesses that may then sell them to advertisers or others. An oft-cited case is that of Flo Health, which makes a period-tracking app that has been used by tens of millions of women. In 2021, Flo settled a case with the Federal Trade Commission, which had charged it with sharing sensitive user data with third parties, including Facebook and Google, without proper disclosure.

"I am worried — both by unethical leaders in tech, by a greedy investment system and by inhuman political leadership," Tin said. She said tech produced in Europe, which has stricter laws, is "the better option right now" for women concerned about privacy.

The next big things

The greatest promise of femtech may be realized in years to come, as demonstrated by a list of recent federal-grant awardees who are dramatically expanding the concept of high-tech answers to female health concerns.

Last fall, the Sprint for Women's Health at the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health awarded $113 million to 23 projects aimed at breakthrough advances in women's health. The projects address both specifically female complaints, such as reproductive-system illnesses, and disorders of the brain and heart that affect women differently than men. They include:

- Cellular implants to improve ovarian health in postmenopausal women;
- Nanoparticles to boost immune systems of women with ovarian cancer, which killed 13,000 Americans last year;
- A finger-stick test for preeclampsia, a leading cause of maternal death and illness;
- And a wearable device to detect precursors of Alzheimer's disease, which is also much more common in women.

To be sure, all the nanoparticles and gizmos in the world don't directly address root causes of gender-based inequities, including evidence that doctors more frequently dismiss women's complaints than men's.

There is also a danger that scientific quests for better responses to serious health threats will lose funding in the current political turmoil. In April, the Trump administration slashed, but then restored, support for the National Institutes of Health's landmark Women's Health Initiative.

At the University of Twente, Jacobs is working on a study of how digital health technologies might be designed to meaningfully contribute to gender equity in health care.

"How can we take charge of these technologies and create and design and produce them in ways that aren't overly predatory but are actually facilitating our needs and wants?" she asked.

The answer could change the world — or at least more than half of it.

The myth of female fragility: 4 ways women are physically stronger than men

STRENGTH FROM **E1**

athletes now so routinely excel that within the community, their records are just part of the sport. In climbing last year, Barbara "Babsi" Zangerl became the first person, man or woman, ever to "flash" — climb without prior practice and sans falls — the towering Yosemite rock formation El Capitan in under three days.

These aren't just athletic feats. They're cultural resets. Experts say we're finally waking up to what women's bodies are capable of.

And it's not just young women blazing new physical trails.

"In the Masters 70-plus, they just set a record for the women's deadlift," says exercise physiologist Stacy Sims, who teaches at Stanford University and the Auckland University of Technology in New Zealand. "Older women are demonstrating that 'I am strong and I can do this.'"

Built to endure

Generally, discussions of "strength" have meant brute force and speed over short distances — qualities historically associated with male physiology. But stamina, recovery, resilience and adaptability are as essential to athletic performance. And in those areas, female physiology holds real advantages, experts in sports science, human physiology, and biological anthropology have found.

The myth of female fragility is relatively modern. For most of human history, women were hauling gear, tracking prey and walking eight to 10 miles a day — often while pregnant, menstruating, nursing or carrying children (one estimate found that hunter-gatherer women covered more than 3,000 miles in a child's first four years of life).

That evolutionary foundation undergirds today's feats, experts say. "Female bodies have superior fatigue resistance," says Sophia Nimphius, pro-vice-chancellor of sport at Edith Cowan University in Perth, Australia.

In test after test, female muscles outlast men's when doing repetitive, if lower-weight, work, according to the pioneering research of Sandra Hunter, an exercise physiologist at the University of Michigan. Hunter's research — and others since — has shown that women's muscles fatigue more slowly than men's, so they can knock out more reps, more consistently. Men might start strong with heavier lifts, but when the workout gets long? Women can keep going, sometimes twice as long, or longer, outlasting even the most jacked guys.

That endurance capacity is likely due to female bodies preferentially using slow-burning fat over quickly exhausted carbohydrates, in both athletes and less-sporty people, studies have shown.

"Our muscles do more with less," says Nimphius. In addition to using fat for staying power, fatigue-resistant slow-twitch muscle fibers are generally more common in women's bodies (though all bodies vary in their proportion of muscle fibers according to individual genetics). This muscle type is also more efficient than fast-twitch, which are generally higher in men's muscles.

PETE SCHREINER

Tara Dower in September, when she became the fastest person to complete the Appalachian Trail. The previous record holder was a man.

JACOB ZOCHERMAN

Jasmin Paris after she finished the 100-mile Barkley Marathons race in under 60 hours last year.

Recovery and resilience

Beyond endurance, several small studies on sprinting and heavy weight lifting have shown that women also recover from hard workouts more quickly. Slow-twitch muscles inherently have a higher capacity to recover, but the female advantage may also be explained by faster healing: A study shows two times faster muscle repair rates for female mice (though mice studies don't always translate to humans). The reason? There's strong evidence that estrogen reduces inflammation and supports muscle repair (one reason that Sims recommends postmenopausal women get targeted training support and recovery time).

However, some studies show that women are more prone to other kinds of sports injuries, especially certain kinds of knee and ACL injuries, but it's not yet known whether that's explained by biomechanical differences in bodies, hormones or poor training.

Some researchers say the greater injury rates in women are because existing research is based on men's bodies: "Female bodies are different — I tell [women] the protocols you're applying aren't meant for your body," says Sims.

Feats of bodily strength — in both ordinary women and trained athletes — are more than just purely physical.

Many experts on competitive strength remark on this mental aspect of female endurance.

"I do think that there is a mental grit, a resilience factor that helps women go to a place in their mind — a state that allows them to continue to push to the limit," says Emily Kraus, director of the Female Athlete Science and Translational Research (FASTR) Program at Stanford University.

A changing future

Men have usually defined strength by what their bodies tend to be good at, but max bench presses or fastest sprint times, both of which men excel at, are just a few ways to test the human body. If we instead focused on endurance, resilience, longevity and recovery, the narrative of who is "strong" would probably have a female form, many experts say.

Currently, young female athletes still don't receive the same level of encouragement, training and scientific attention as boys, Nimphius says. Research into girl's and women's health, while slowly improving, still lags — just 6 percent of sports and exercise research has looked exclusively at female bodies, according to a 2021 study.

Considering all the wins for women already, what would the landscape look like if we designed sports science around female physiology — rather than downsizing routines created for men? The current generation of women athletes is challenging the very architecture of athleticism. Soon, experts say, they will have better information to help female athletes understand and train, and that will be true for weekend warriors and 5k racing types as well. Ongoing and anticipated sports science studies will be "a game changer for girls and women — not just now, but in five, 10, 15 years from now," Kraus says. "And that's really exciting."

Four things women's bodies do exceptionally well

- **Pain tolerance:** Human bodies endure all kinds of pain — from menstrual cramps and childbirth to back injuries and broken bones. Pain is subjective, so difficult to measure, but most research agrees with your grandma — women seem to handle pain better. Athletes are pain experts, and numerous studies show that they have higher pain tolerance than non-athletes — and when you break it down by sex, the limited research shows that female athletes don't differ from their male counterparts' pain tolerance despite higher pain sensitivity and that women are more likely to play through injuries. This is probably due to both biology and experience, says Sophia Nimphius, pro-vice-chancellor of sport at Edith Cowan University in Perth, Australia. A 1981 study put it plainly: "Female athletes had the highest pain tolerance and threshold."
- **Immunity:** Among mammals, including humans, it is widely accepted that females have stronger immune systems than males. That's due to the power of estrogen, and also of the XX chromosome carried by women but not men, which provides more variability in immune function. As the University of Minnesota evolutionary biologist Marlene Zuk wrote in a 2009 article, "There is no contest about the identity of the sicker sex—it is males, almost every time. Everyone knows that old age homes have more widows than widowers, but the disparity extends far beyond the elderly." (There is a downside though; the majority of autoimmune disease patients are female. It's the cost that women bear for an aggressive immune system.)
- **Resilience:** Women's bodies seem better built for the long haul — less wear and tear, more staying power, according to the limited research. The data on long-term exercise suggests women may also pay a lower price for physical strain. For instance, the British Heart Foundation studied the vascular condition of 300 Masters' athletes (meaning over age 40), that included a mix of long-distance runners, cyclists, rowers and swimmers. In men, vascular aging increased among the athletes — by some markers up to 10 years, increasing their risk of cardiovascular issues. Among the female athletes, the reverse was true: They had biologically younger vascular systems, lowering their risk of heart problems.
- **Longevity:** Arguably, the truest test of any body is longevity. And with rare exceptions, no matter the species or culture, women live longer. That's partly behavioral — men tend to take more risks that can kill them — but it's also biological. Women tend to survive disease, starvation and injury at higher rates than men do. Studies have shown that the Y chromosome, which is unique to men, can degrade over time — a phenomenon known as mosaic loss of Y. This degradation has been linked to a range of health issues in men, including increased risks of heart disease and cancer.

Starre Vartan is the author of "The Stronger Sex: What Science Tells Us About the Power of the Female Body," which will be published in July.

Here are 11 of the most important things you can do to prevent cancer

Ask A Doctor

MIKKAEL A. SEKERES

Many of us have been personally affected by cancer — including me. I'm an oncologist, and my own family history is one of the reasons I decided to specialize in caring for people with cancer and in conducting cancer research. My mom has lung cancer, and several relatives from both my mom and my dad's side were also diagnosed with cancers. It's no wonder I worry about cancer affecting me one day.

About 1 in 5 people around the world will develop cancer throughout the course of their lives. In 2021, almost 1.8 million new cancer cases were reported in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The following year, about 600,000 people died of cancer in the country.

But there are steps you can take to reduce your risk. About 40 percent of new cancer diagnoses in U.S. adults age 30 and older are considered preventable, according to a study from the American Cancer Society.

Here are 11 scientifically backed ways to reduce your risk.

1. Eat more fruits, vegetables, whole grains and beans

What our parents told us growing up is true: Eating fruits and vegetables is good for our health. A study that included data collected over decades on about 27,000 people in Europe found that eating a lot of cruciferous vegetables in particular — such as cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and turnip greens (both cooked and raw) — reduced the risk of at least six types of cancer compared to low consumption. High consumption of fruit reduced the risk of seven cancers. (Low consumption was defined as less than one serving per week, and high as one or more servings.)

Don't like broccoli or cauliflower? Just about any vegetable you eat will help make you healthier, and many of them are good sources of fiber. Increasing your intake of dietary fiber is a great way to reduce your risk of colon cancer. So I also recommend incorporating whole grains — such as barley, brown rice, millet, quinoa and farro — and beans into your diet.

2. Cook with plant oils such as olive and canola

Regularly eating a lot of butter was linked to a higher risk of dying of cancer in a recent study that looked at more than 200,000 adults in the United States enrolled in the Nurses' Health Study. On the other hand, higher intake of plant oils, such as olive and canola, were linked to a lower risk.

3. Eat less red and processed meats

Research has found an association between colorectal cancer and eating red meat and processed meat. If you enjoy grilled meat, as many of us do, you should know that some studies also suggest that people who consume more meat cooked at a high temperature have a slightly higher chance of developing colorectal cancer.

Because there is strong evidence that red or processed meats increase cancer risk, my advice would be to limit consuming and grilling those in particular.

4. Avoid sugar-sweetened drinks and ultra-processed foods

Consuming a lot of sugar-sweetened beverages in teenage and adult years has been associated with an increased risk of early-onset colorectal cancer. Researchers who looked at the diets of people in the United Kingdom also found a link between ultra-processed foods and cancer risk. Ultra-processed foods contain little or no whole foods and are often energy-dense, high in salt, sugar and fat, and low in fiber. They can include chips, cereals, frozen meals and even yogurts. To identify whether a food is ultra-processed, check the label for ingredients you wouldn't have in your home kitchen, such as thickeners, emulsifiers and stabilizers.

5. Wear sunscreen every day

Most melanoma and non-melanoma (basal and squamous cell skin cancer) diagnoses are attributed to UV radiation, including tanning beds: Melanoma risk increases by 75 percent in people engaging in indoor tanning before the age of 35, and with years of use and number of sessions. Skin cancer risk also increases with age — reflecting cumulative sun exposure — and in people with light-colored skin.

WASHINGTON POST ILLUSTRATION; ISTOCK

I suggest wearing a hat, sunglasses and a long-sleeve shirt whenever you spend a lot of time outside, like going to the beach or on a long bike ride, in addition to applying sunscreen that has an SPF of 30 or higher every day.

6. Keep alcohol intake to a minimum

Multiple studies conducted over decades in tens of thousands of people point to alcohol causing cancer. In the American Cancer Society study, drinking alcohol contributed to about 5 percent of new cancer diagnoses in men and about 6 percent of cancer diagnoses in women. While we commonly associate alcohol with cancers of the oral cavity or esophagus, by far the greatest number of cancer diagnoses attributed to alcohol consumption was actually breast cancer, with over 44,000 in the United States in 2019.

But how much alcohol is too much? Alcohol intake is a risk for cancer in a dose-dependent manner: The more you drink, the higher your cancer risk. Even those who have one drink per day have a modestly increased risk of some cancers. Clearly, less alcohol is better, and each of us must determine our own tolerance for cancer risk when deciding how much to drink.

7. Check your vaccination status

Yearly, almost 700,000 cancers worldwide are attributed to HPV, including cancers of the cervix, anus, genital areas, and head and neck. But thanks to the introduction of the HPV vaccine, the CDC estimates that the number of certain HPV infections has decreased by over 70 percent in women ages 14-24 over the past two decades.

The HPV vaccine is recommended for everyone through age 26 and for some adults up to age 45.

Hepatitis B infections are the most common cause of liver cancer worldwide. Check your medical records to make sure you've already received the hepatitis B vaccine. When in doubt, ask your doctor to conduct a blood test to check for antibodies and get vaccinated if needed.

8. Get colonoscopies starting at age 45

Screening tests look for cancer in people who don't have symptoms. But there's one screening test that can actually prevent cancer before it happens: a colonoscopy. When you undergo a colonoscopy, your doctor can remove abnormal growths from your colon — called adenomas — before they turn into cancer. The United States Preventive Task Force recommends colon cancer screening for adults age 45 through 75.

The best way to manage cancer is to catch it early and prevent it from spreading. So make sure to follow all screening guidelines from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force.

9. Exercise regularly

Getting a lot of exercise is associated with substantive risk reduction in a number of cancers, including cancers of the breast, colon, bladder, esophagus, stomach and endometrium, among others. A 2024 study showed that people who exercised for just two or more hours per week reduced their risk of head and neck cancer, lung cancer and breast cancer.

The American Cancer Society recommends 150 to 300 minutes of moderate-intensity exercise (such as biking under 10 mph or brisk walking) or 75 to 150 minutes of vigorous-intensity exercise (such as cycling 10 mph or faster or running) per week.

10. Maintain a healthy weight

Obesity has been linked to 13 types of cancers. Scientists are still trying to understand this connection, but they think it may be related to the chronic inflammation, insulin resistance and metabolic issues — like prediabetes — that are common with obesity, and that have also been linked to cancer.

Sustained weight loss may help with risk reduction. A recent study looked at the use of GLP-1 agonist drugs in a population of over 1.6 million patients with Type 2 diabetes in the United States. When compared with patients who used insulin to control their diabetes, those who used GLP-1 inhibitors had lower rates of 10 of those 13 cancers during 15 years of follow-up. They also lost weight.

Other studies have shown that sustained weight loss by any method is associated with reduced cancer risk, as is weight loss through bariatric surgery.

11. Don't smoke. And if you do, try to stop.

Cigarette smoking was the greatest contributor to new cancer diagnoses in the American Cancer Society study. It was responsible for 86 percent of lung cancer diagnoses and over 50 percent of cancers of the esophagus and bladder cancers, among many other cancer types.

Other forms of tobacco consumption are no better: For example, in an hour-long hookah session, you can inhale 100 to 200 times more smoke than with a single cigarette.

It's never too late to stop. In fact, people who stop smoking reduce their cancer risks substantially: The risk of lung cancer drops by half with 10 to 15 years of smoking cessation and falls to almost nonsmoker levels for those who quit by age 40. Similarly, the risk of esophageal cancer diminishes by 30 percent and the risk of bladder cancer falls to 50 percent with 10 years of smoking cessation.

Mikkael A. Sekeres, MD, is the chief of the division of hematology and professor of medicine at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami. He is author of the books "When Blood Breaks Down: Life Lessons from Leukemia" and "Drugs and the FDA: Safety, Efficacy, and the Public's Trust."

Questions remain for nonhormonal drug to treat night sweats and hot flashes

HOT FLASH FROM E1

Hot flashes and night sweats affect up to 80 percent of women during menopause, and they can persist for years — sometimes a decade or more. However, there have been limited choices for those who do not want hormone therapy or are not eligible for it because of certain cardiovascular conditions such as heart disease, stroke and blood clots, or because they have had or are at risk for certain cancers.

The first in a newer class of nonhormonal medications, Veozah, or the generic form fezolinetant, was approved in 2023 by the Food and Drug Administration to treat moderate to severe hot flashes caused by menopause. A similar drug, elinzanetant, is under FDA review.

While rare, Veozah has been linked to liver injury in some cases. The once-a-day pill can also be expensive and is not always covered by insurance.

However, experts said the medications, though not specifically approved yet for people with cancer, may be able to help people like Keith, who said since she started Veozah in March, she has been able to sleep comfortably for the first time in years.

ALLISON JOYCE/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Sharity Keith sat outside to cool down from night sweats she suffered during breast cancer treatment.

"It's nothing but encouraging in that people are thinking about this more," said Stephanie Faubion, medical director of the North American Menopause Society and director of the Center for Women's Health at Mayo Clinic. "We're coming up with more options for women, and that's never a bad thing."

An alternative to hormone therapy

Research suggests that the benefits of hormone therapy to treat hot flashes and night sweats likely outweigh the risks for people who take them for a relatively short period of time around menopause. The combined therapy of estrogen plus progestogen has been linked to a small increased risk of breast cancer, heart disease, stroke and blood clots, but it is considered safe for those without any contraindications who start taking them before 60 to treat hot flashes.

Because hormone therapy may cause estrogen-sensitive cancers to grow, it is not an option for many people with a history of these cancers or who are at high risk of developing them.

At 38, Jennifer Phillips began battling hot flashes and night sweats after starting chemotherapy for Stage 2b triple-negative breast cancer.

"Veozah stopped the hot flashes the first night," said Phillips, now 41, of Pensacola, Florida. Veozah is being studied for the treatment of moderate to severe hot flashes and night sweats in women with breast cancer who are receiving endocrine therapy, the drug manufacturer, Astellas Pharma, said in August.

This is "the population that needs this type of treatment the most," said JoAnn V. Pinkerton, a professor of obstetrics and gynecology and the director of the Midlife Health division at the University of Virginia.

The science behind the new drug class

Until recently, there was only one FDA-approved nonhormonal medication for hot flashes, an SSRI called Brisdelle, which contains paroxetine in a lower dose than the antidepressant drug Paxil.

Newer medications such as Veozah, known as neurokinin receptor antagonists, appear to target what is believed to be a key mechanism behind hot flashes — KNDy neurons in the brain.

When estrogen levels drop during the transition to menopause, it is believed that the ovaries no longer send proper signals to these neurons, causing them to become overactive, which then triggers hot flashes, Faubion said.

Veozah blocks the neuron receptors, specifically NK3 receptors, which seems to help with hot flashes. Elinzanetant also blocks NK1 receptors, which seems to help with sleep.

How Veozah and elinzanetant compare

In large clinical trials, both Veozah, or fezolinetant, and elinzanetant reduced the frequency of moderate to severe hot flashes by as much as 25 percent over placebo. Additionally, these medications reduced overall symptom severity by 8 to 16 percent more than placebos, with elinzanetant appearing to result in modestly greater reductions than fezolinetant, said Alison Huang, a professor of medicine at the University of California at San Francisco.

There is a lack of head-to-head studies, however, comparing the efficacy of these drugs with hormone therapy.

A recent clinical research review of nonhormonal treatments reported that there are no nonhormonal treatment strategies that "clearly have the same degree of efficacy as systemic estrogen therapy," said Huang, who is lead author of the paper. "That said, there are a variety of different nonhormonal treatment options, and it might make sense to tailor those options based on the particular needs and safety profiles of individual female patients."

In the real world, while some women have spoken about the benefits, others have noted online that Veozah was not effective for them or worked for a while but stopped.

Veozah has been known to cause side effects such as abdominal pain, back pain, diarrhea and insomnia, among other symptoms.

Additionally, some patients experience headaches, said Rajita Patil, an assistant clinical professor in OB/GYN at the University of California at Los Angeles and the director of UCLA Health's Comprehensive Menopause Program.

The FDA issued a boxed warning last year for Veozah, stating that, in rare cases, the drug may cause liver injury. The warning was based on a report of a patient who experienced liver injury within 40 days of starting the medication. After stopping the drug, liver test values returned to normal.

The agency now requires liver function testing monthly for the first three months, then at the six-month and nine-month marks.

Patil, who said she has more than 100 patients on Veozah, noted that she and her colleagues have not had to take many patients off the drug because of this liver issue.

Nanette Santoro, a professor and the chair of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, said two of her patients, out of dozens, had to stop taking Veozah because of abnormal liver tests. But their liver levels normalized after they stopped the drug, and they were able to restart it without other issues, she said.

"It remains to be seen how common this is, so in the meantime, pretty close monitoring of liver function is required," said Santoro, a member of the scientific advisory board for Astellas.

There have been no cases of liver enzyme elevations in the elinzanetant clinical trials that met the criteria for liver injury, said Pinkerton, who was one of the primary investigators on the elinzanetant studies.

Potential hurdles

Cost may be the biggest barrier to treatment. In addition to time and money constraints with frequent bloodwork, Veozah can run about $500 or more per month without insurance, putting the drug out of reach for many women, experts said.

Charlotte Brown, 54, of Richmond, did not have insurance when she was initially prescribed Veozah but was eligible for the patient-assistance program through the drug manufacturer. She was able to get it at no cost, she said.

Even for patients with insurance, there is no guarantee of coverage.

Katie Baxter, 43, of Rome, Georgia, does not have an underlying health issue that would make her ineligible for hormone therapy, but she opted to go for a nonhormonal medication based on the recommendation of her osteopathic physician, she said.

Baxter has been using Astellas's savings card to afford it.

In some cases, when Veozah is covered, there may be hoops to jump through such as trying other medications first, Faubion said. Even so, many clinicians are happy to have another option to offer people with debilitating hot flashes.

"As a clinician and as a researcher who's been in the field of menopausal medicine and taking care of menopausal women for over 30 years, this is the most exciting development that we have seen," Pinkerton said.

WELL+BEING

Pregnancy symptoms can be pretty weird. It's worth talking openly about it.

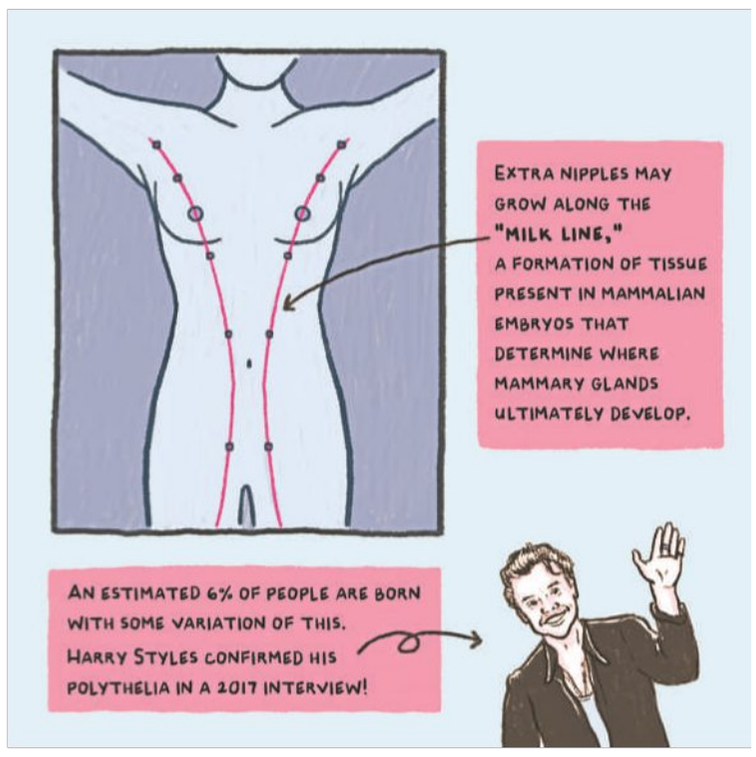
BY YIFAN LUO

Pregnancy's effects can differ from person to person. Some changes may not be well known and can lead to feelings of isolation. But talking about them can help pregnant people learn more about their bodies and build community.

WHEN I BECAME PREGNANT WITH MY SON, I WAS EXCITED TO EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC OF FEELING HIM GROW INSIDE OF ME — BUT ALSO APPREHENSIVE ABOUT THE NOT-SO-PLEASANT SYMPTOMS I'D HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT.
PREGNANCY
RELIEF STARTER PACK
FOR FIGHTING HEART-BURN GALORE!
FOR CONSTIPATION!
FOR ALL YOUR NAUSEA & FREQUENT URINATION NEEDS!
COMFY SLIP-ON SNEAKERS
FOR TENDER BREASTS!
XL
PRUNE

FORTUNATELY FOR ME, THE PREGNANCY PROGRESSED SMOOTHLY AND RATHER UNREMARKABLY. SO WHEN I FIRST NOTICED THE DARKENING LITTLE BUMP BY MY RIGHT ARMPIT A FEW MONTHS IN, I DIDN'T THINK MUCH OF IT...
...UNTIL ONE DAY ITS "TWIN" APPEARED IN THE EXACT SAME SPOT ON THE LEFT SIDE.

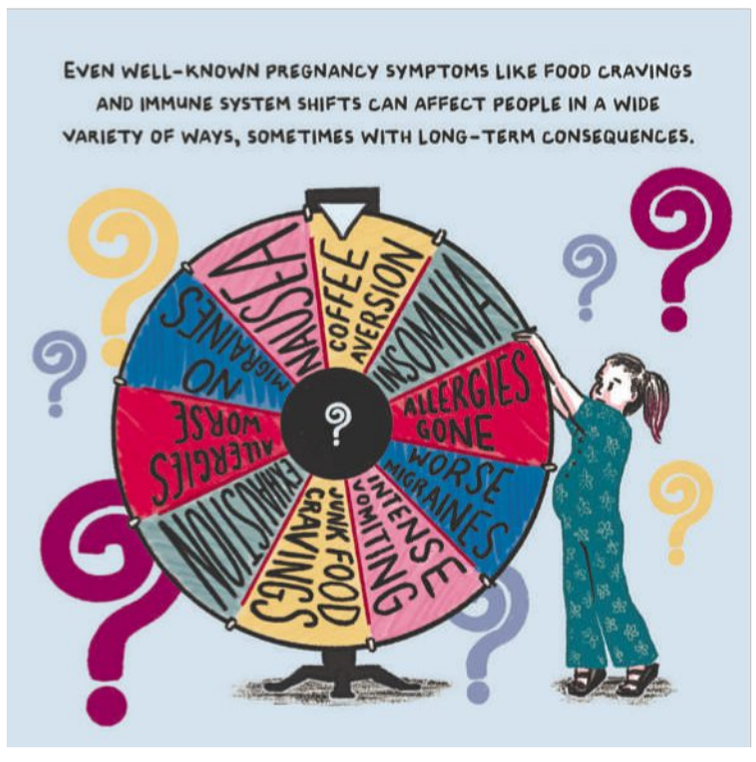
THESE TURNED OUT TO BE POLYTHELIA, A TYPE OF SUPERNUMERARY NIPPLE. THESE EXTRA NIPPLES COME IN MANY VARIETIES AND ARE CATEGORIZED BY TISSUE MAKEUP.
(IN SOME CASES, THEY MAY EVEN LACTATE DURING PREGNANCY AND POSTPARTUM!)
Heh, this is completely normal.

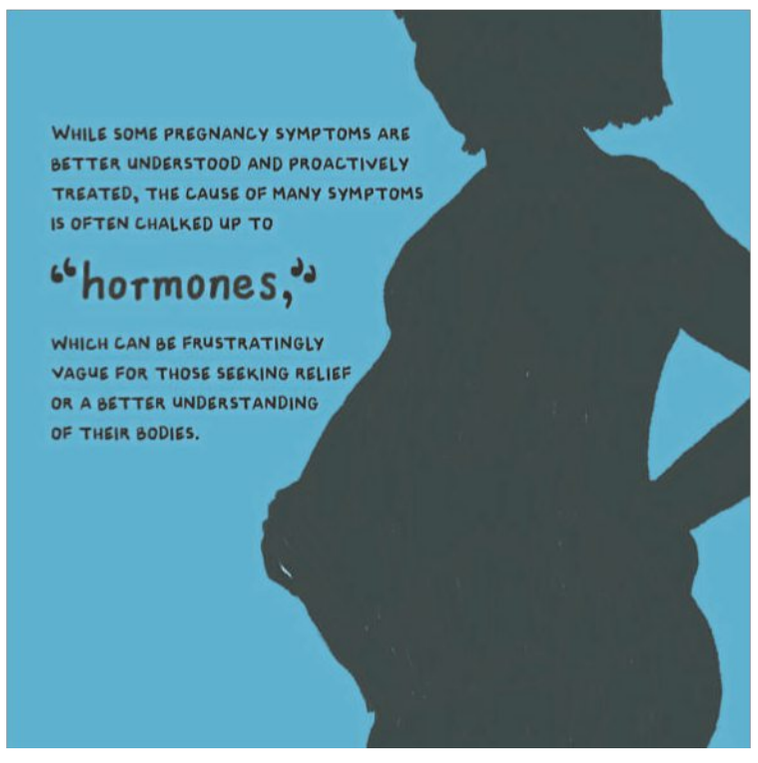

EXTRA NIPPLES MAY GROW ALONG THE "MILK LINE," A FORMATION OF TISSUE PRESENT IN MAMMALIAN EMBRYOS THAT DETERMINE WHERE MAMMARY GLANDS ULTIMATELY DEVELOP.
AN ESTIMATED 6% OF PEOPLE ARE BORN WITH SOME VARIATION OF THIS. HARRY STYLES CONFIRMED HIS POLYTHELIA IN A 2017 INTERVIEW!

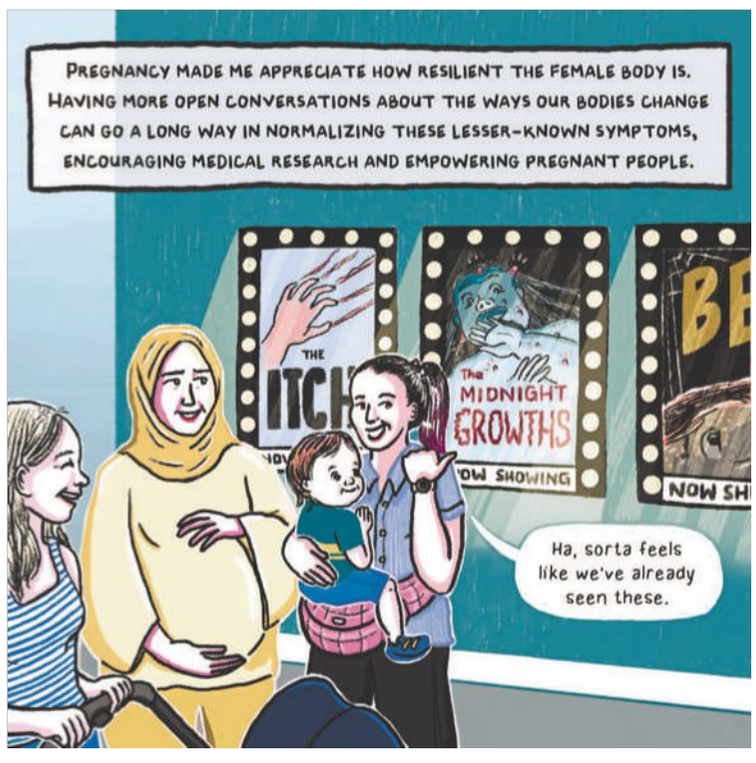
THIS DISCOVERY MADE ME UNEASY AT FIRST, EVEN A LITTLE EMBARRASSED... BUT ALSO CURIOUS ABOUT THE LESSER-KNOWN SIDE EFFECTS OF PREGNANCY.
WHY HADN'T MY MEDICAL CARE TEAM OR PREGNANCY-TRACKING APPS GIVEN ME A HEADS-UP ABOUT THIS?
< 21 WEEKS >
BABY IS THE SIZE OF A GRAPEFRUIT!
AND POLYTHELIA IS THE SIZE OF A PEA
~19 WEEKS TO GO!

SPEAKING TO PEERS WHO HAD CARRIED BABIES MADE ME REALIZE MY EXPERIENCE WAS NOT SO WEIRD OR UNIQUE AFTER ALL. FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES AND NEIGHBORS SHARED THEIR OWN UNEXPECTED SYMPTOMS, RANGING FROM THE ODD BUT BENIGN (LIKE MINE)...
I grew these weird skin tags and had to get them frozen off.
My feet grew from a size 9 to a 10.5 and have remained that way since!
I went from having straight-ish hair to curly hair.
I suffered from persistent ringing in my ear, aka tinnitus.

...TO THE ALARMING AND DEBILITATING.
I got benign mouth tumors that made it difficult to speak and eat.
My teeth shifted, and it made my gums super tender, and my molars feel misaligned.
I was plagued by sudden groin pain aptly called lightning crotch!
I went to bed with ice packs to calm my restless leg syndrome, but still struggled to sleep.
My nipples felt like they were on fire 24/7!




WHILE SOME PREGNANCY SYMPTOMS ARE BETTER UNDERSTOOD AND PROACTIVELY TREATED, THE CAUSE OF MANY SYMPTOMS IS OFTEN CHALKED UP TO
"hormones,"
WHICH CAN BE FRUSTRATINGLY VAGUE FOR THOSE SEEKING RELIEF OR A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR BODIES.


PREGNANCY MADE ME APPRECIATE HOW RESILIENT THE FEMALE BODY IS. HAVING MORE OPEN CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THE WAYS OUR BODIES CHANGE CAN GO A LONG WAY IN NORMALIZING THESE LESSER-KNOWN SYMPTOMS, ENCOURAGING MEDICAL RESEARCH AND EMPOWERING PREGNANT PEOPLE.
THE ITCH
The MIDNIGHT GROWTHS
Ha, sorta feels like we've already seen these.

WELL+BEING

Double-dipping may seem gross, but it's not as risky as you think

BY LINDSEY BEVER

The question:

Is it true that double-dipping can spread germs?

The science:

Like George Costanza on "Seinfeld," many of us have done it — dip a chip into a communal bowl of salsa or stick a veggie into the hummus, bite it and then go for a double-dip.

Yes, double-dipping can transmit bacteria and viruses from your mouth to the shared bowl. And yes, in theory, those microorganisms can be spread to other eaters. But in most cases, that might not be as risky as it seems.

Researchers at Clemson University discovered that there were more bacteria in double-dipped situations compared with the single-dipped. In a series of experiments, the team analyzed how many bacteria were transferred from a bitten cracker into a cup of sterile water compared with an unbitten cracker. They found that if someone had taken a bite before dipping, the water contained significantly more bacteria.

Additionally, the researchers reported that the type of food mattered. After double-dipping, salsa, which has a high acidity, had lower levels of bacteria two hours later than dishes made with cheese and chocolate, which have a low acidity.

While people may be introducing bacteria or viruses into the communal bowl, it does not mean these organisms are the type that can make you sick, said Benjamin Chapman, department head of agricultural and human sciences at North Carolina State University.

Pathogens that cause the common cold, influenza and covid, for instance, have not been shown to be transmitted through food, Chapman said. Respiratory illnesses such as these are much more commonly spread by coughing and sneezing around people at a party than by eating or drinking after them, he said.

One strong exception is norovirus. Research shows that the virus — which causes the notoriously unpleasant "stomach bug" linked to outbreaks on cruise ships and in other places with close quarters — can be spread through direct contact such as hand-shaking, through contaminated food and water, through aerosols, and, most important to this conversation about double-dipping, through saliva.

"If you are recovering from norovirus, double-dipping would be

LINNEA BULLION/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

really risky" for other eaters, Chapman said.

But because "people infected with norovirus get sick very promptly, they're unlikely to spend a whole lot of time during the very brief incubation period sharing a dip with someone else," said William Schaffner, a professor of infectious diseases and preventive medicine at Vanderbilt University.

There is no real evidence showing that double-dipping can cause foodborne illness outbreaks, though experts said double-dipping often happens in small groups that may not be tracked.

What else you should know:

The double-dipping controversy may be more about social etiquette. "The presumption is, 'We don't want to make people sick,' but really it's more the 'ick' factor than it is the risk of passing a foodborne illness," said Keith Schneider, a professor in the food science and human nutrition department at the University of Florida.

But here are some best practices, experts said:

- **If you are sick, skip the party** and protect others from potential illness.
- **In any case, wash your hands** or, in a pinch, use alcohol-based hand sanitizers before handling food.
- **Cover your nose and mouth** with your elbow or a tissue when you cough and sneeze. Then wash your hands again.
- **If you are the one planning the party, you could consider using individual dishes for dips** rather than communal bowls since, theoretically, a person also could spread the norovirus if they accidentally dip a finger or two into a shared snack.

The bottom line:

While double-dipping can spread bacteria and viruses, it is in most cases unlikely to make you sick, experts said.